



editor's choice



**G.O.**

Story & Art by Junji Ito

From the creator of UZUMAKI



VIZ Graphic Novel

\$12.95 USA/\$20.95 CAN

# Gyo

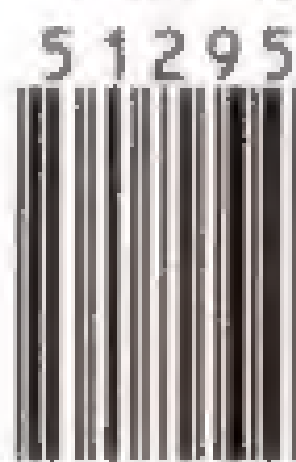
Something is rotten in Okinawa...the floating stench of death hangs over the island...What is it? A strange, legged fish appears on the scene...so begins Tadashi and Kaori's spiral into the horror (and stench) of the sea. Here is the long-awaited new horror manga series from the Eisner-nominated creator of *Uzumaki*, Junji Ito.



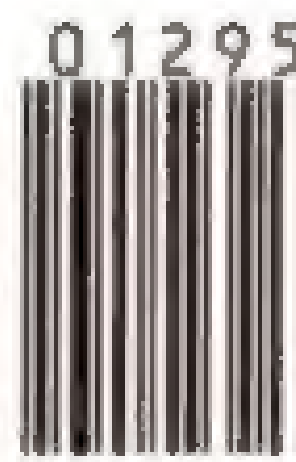
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STORY & ART BY  
**JUNJI ITO**

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**GYO VOLUME 1**

**STORY & ART BY JUNJI ITO**

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*// The Death-  
Stench of the  
South Seas*

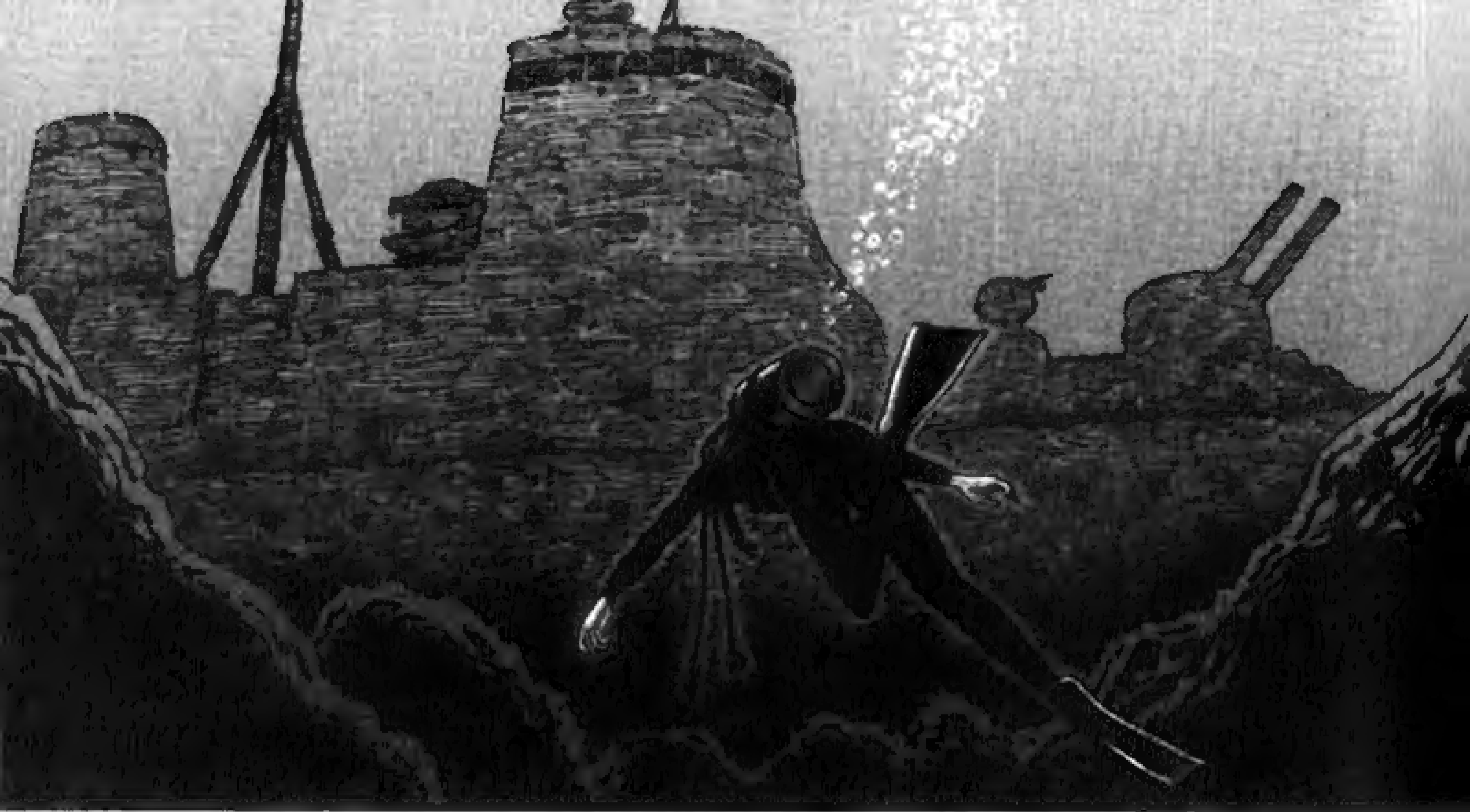


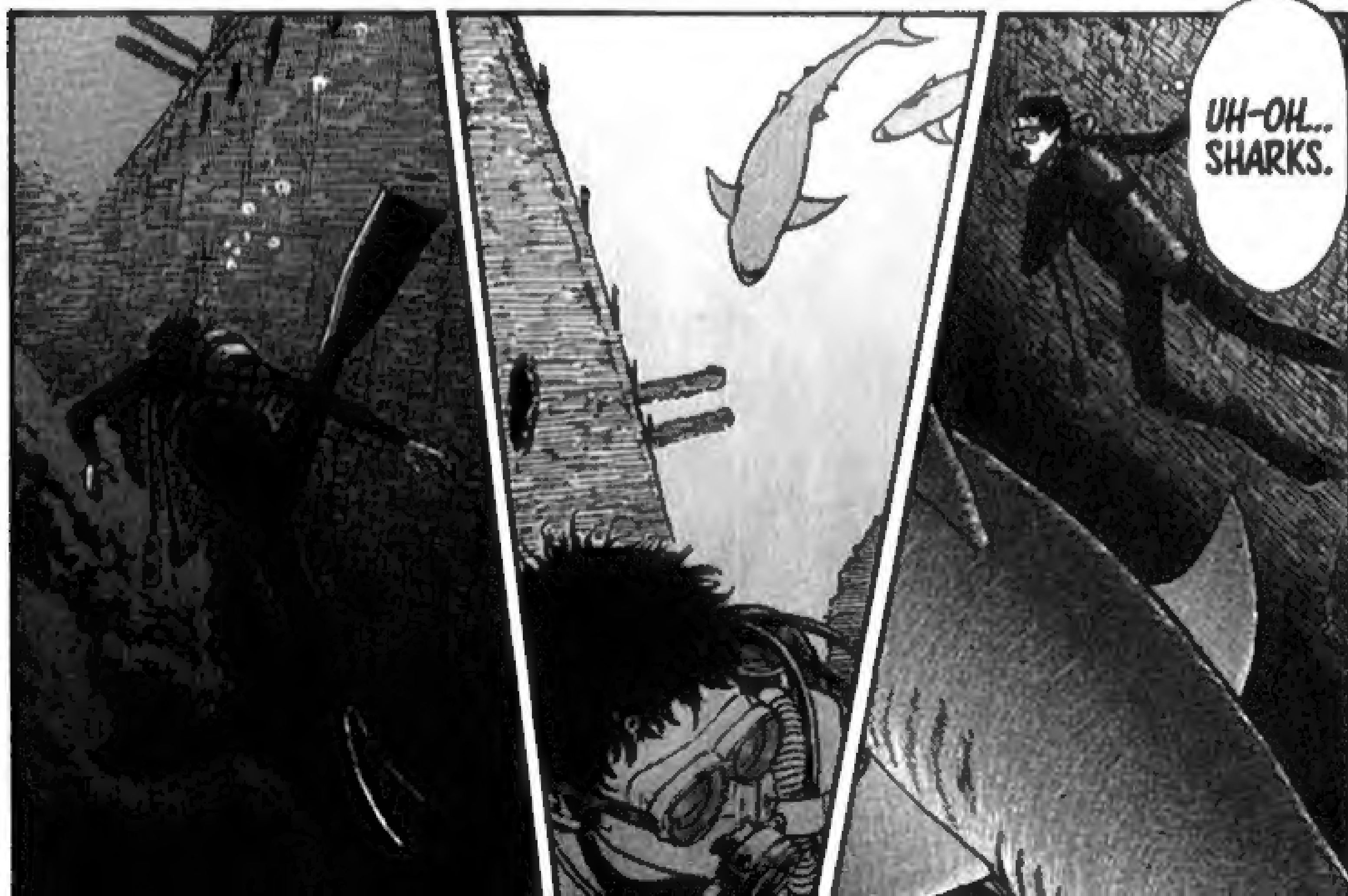
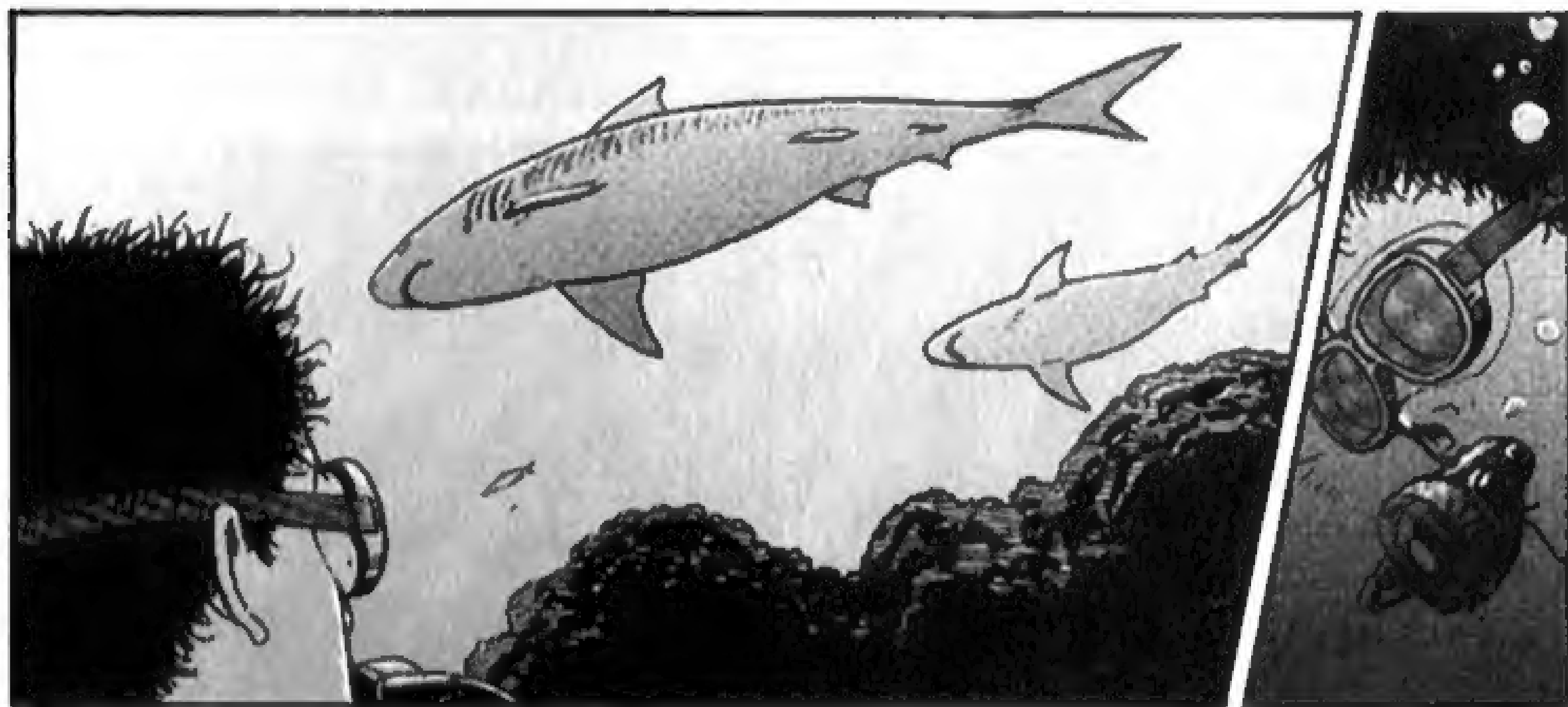
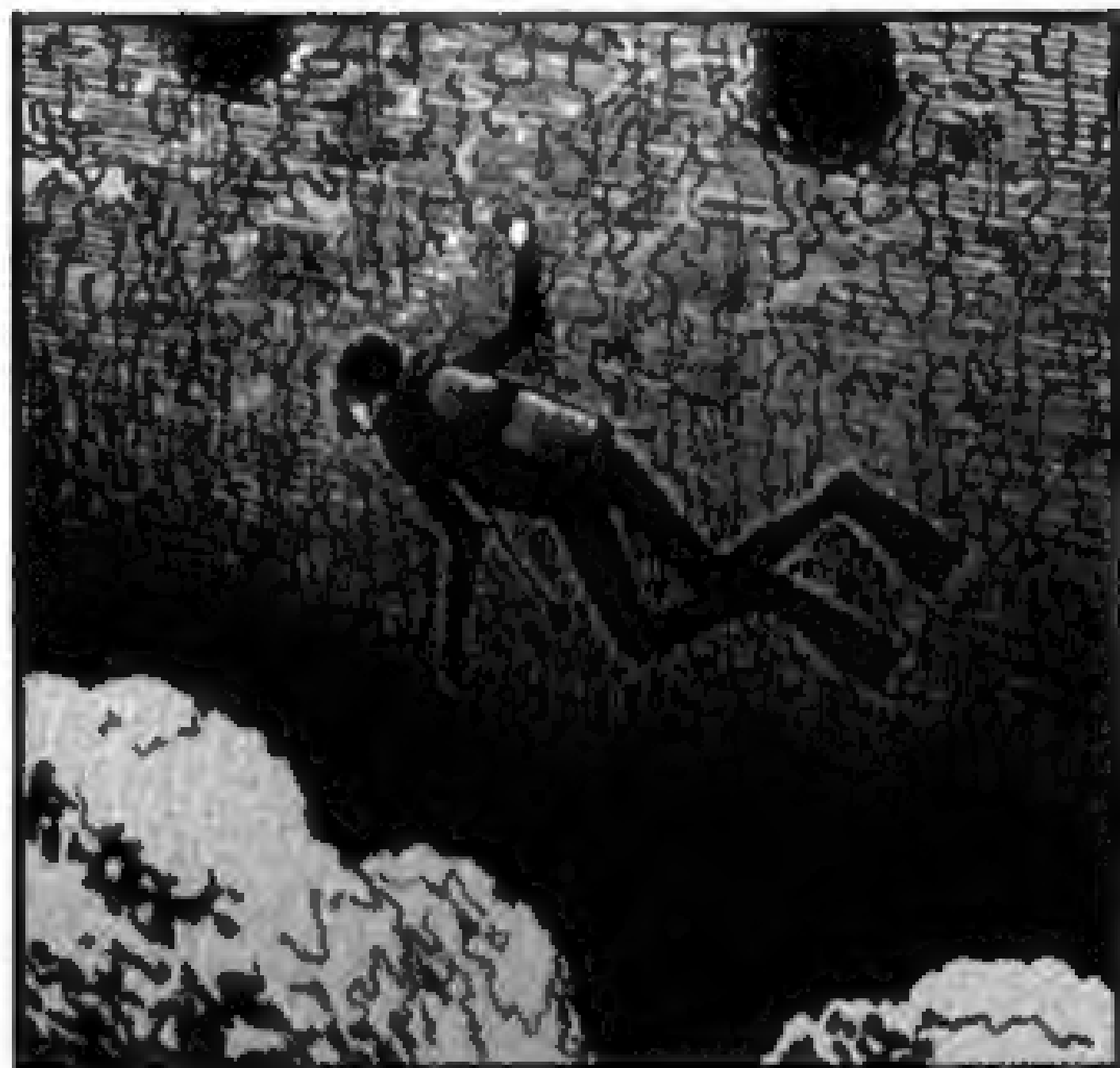










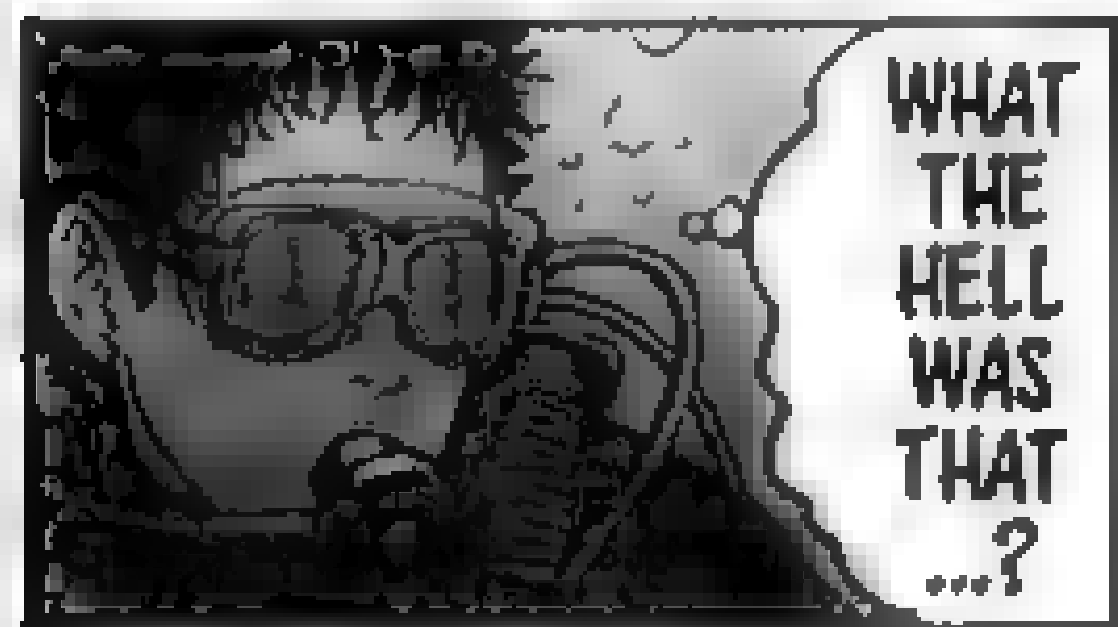
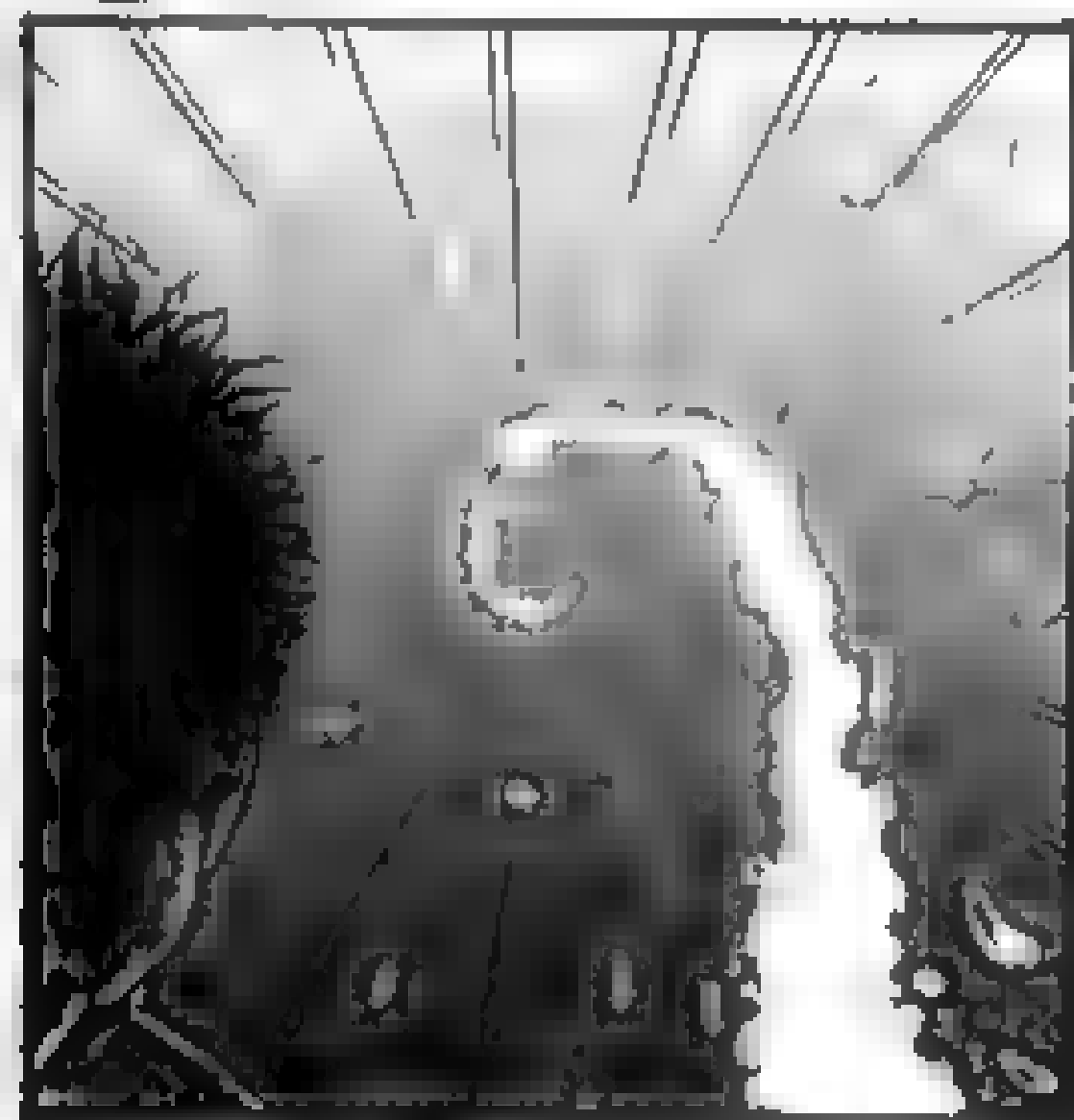
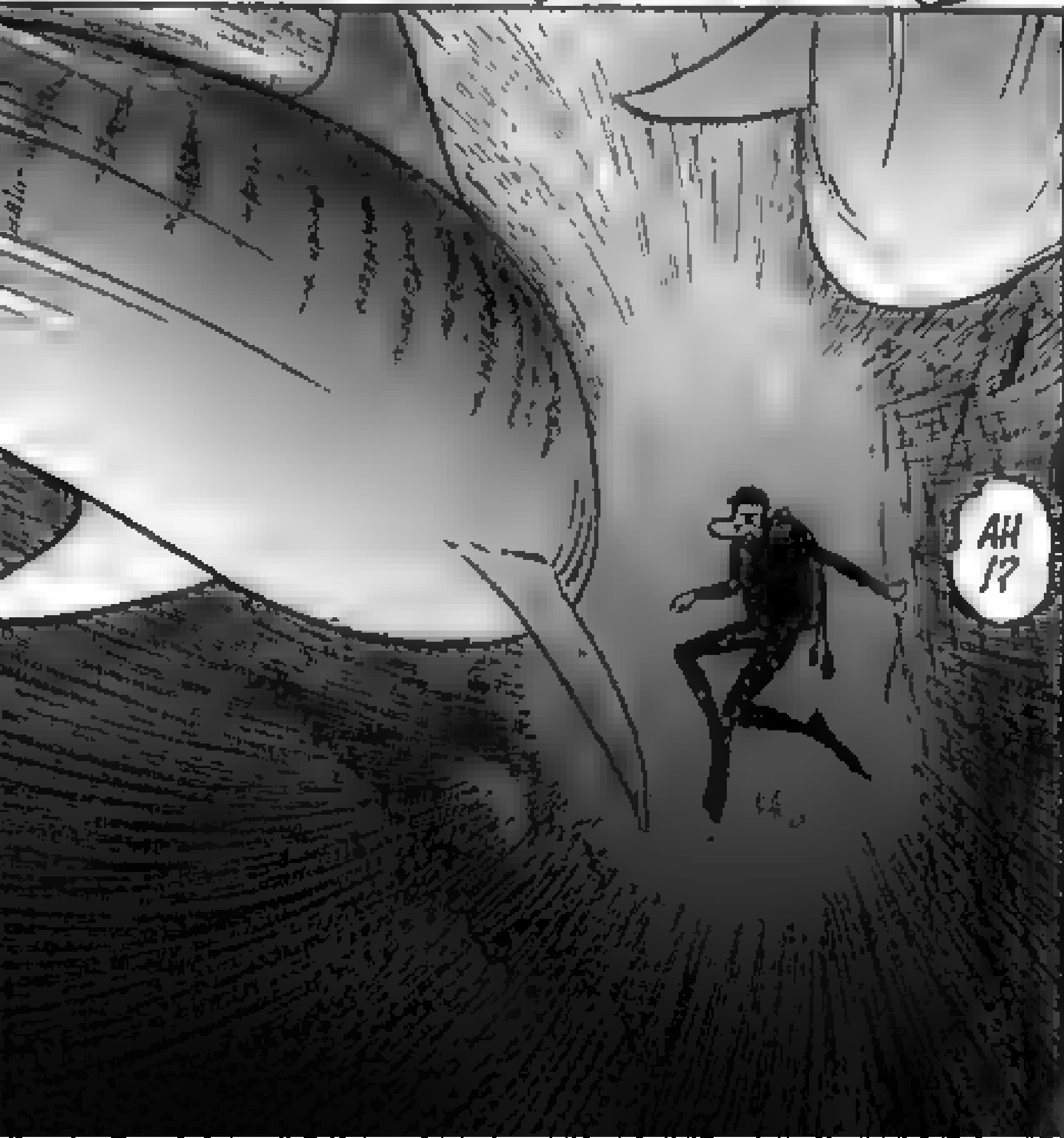


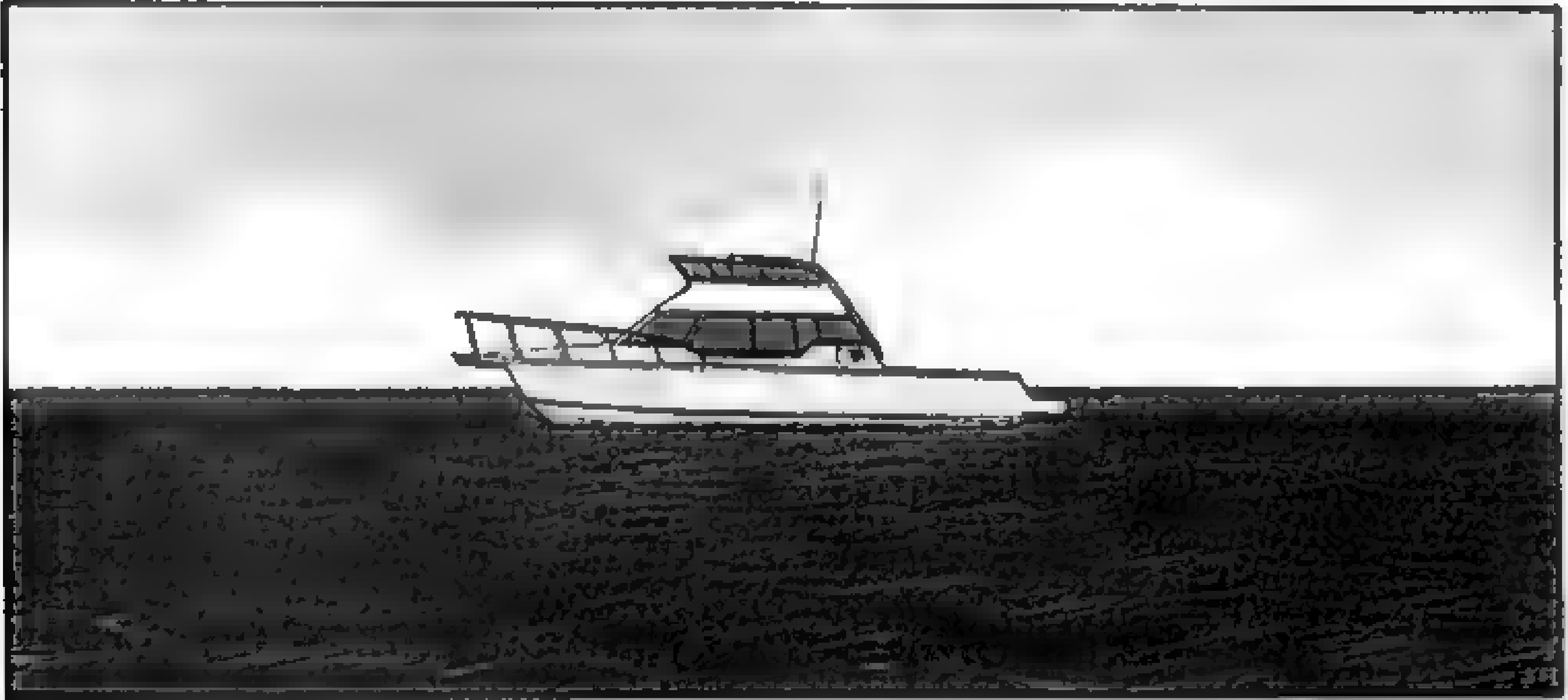
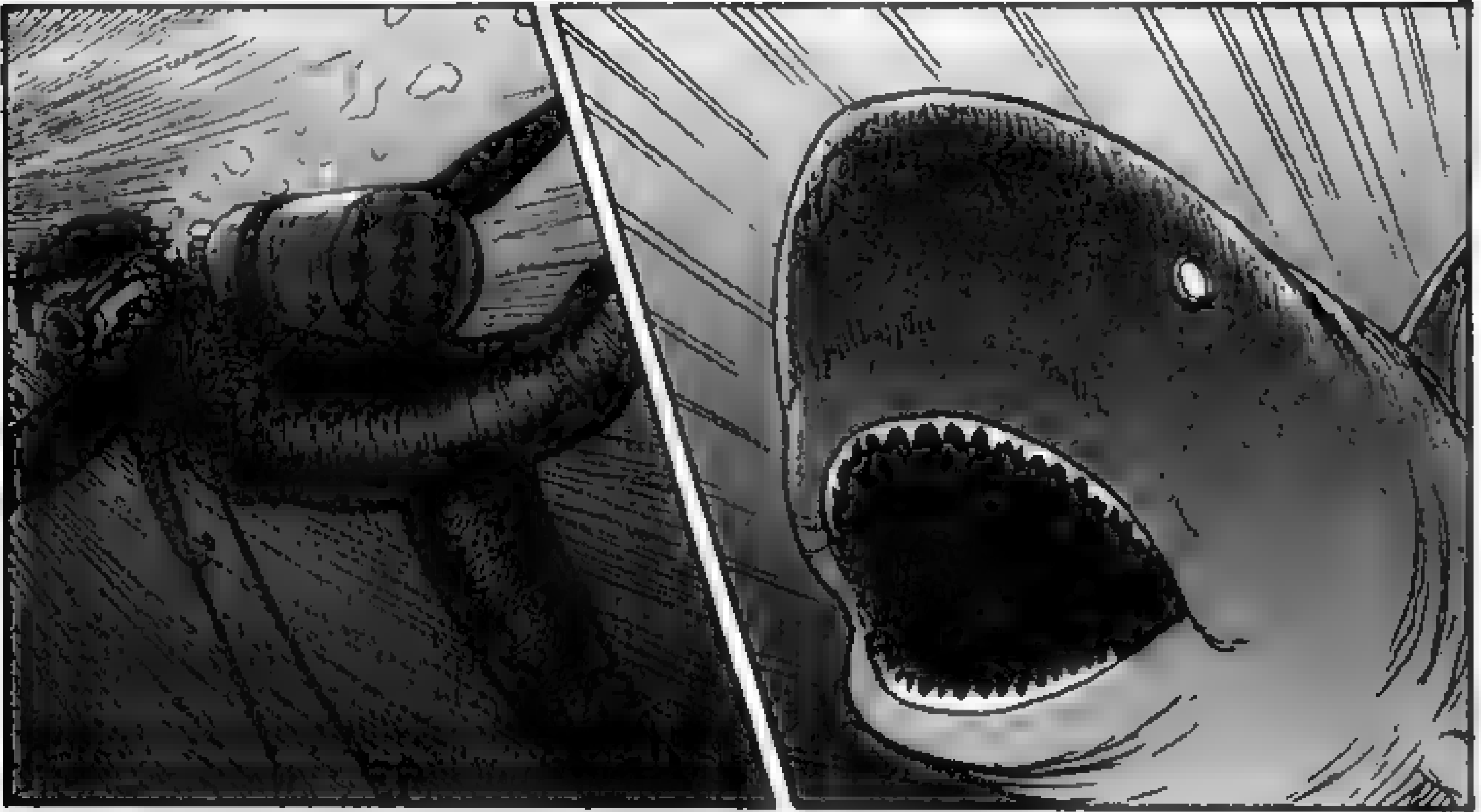
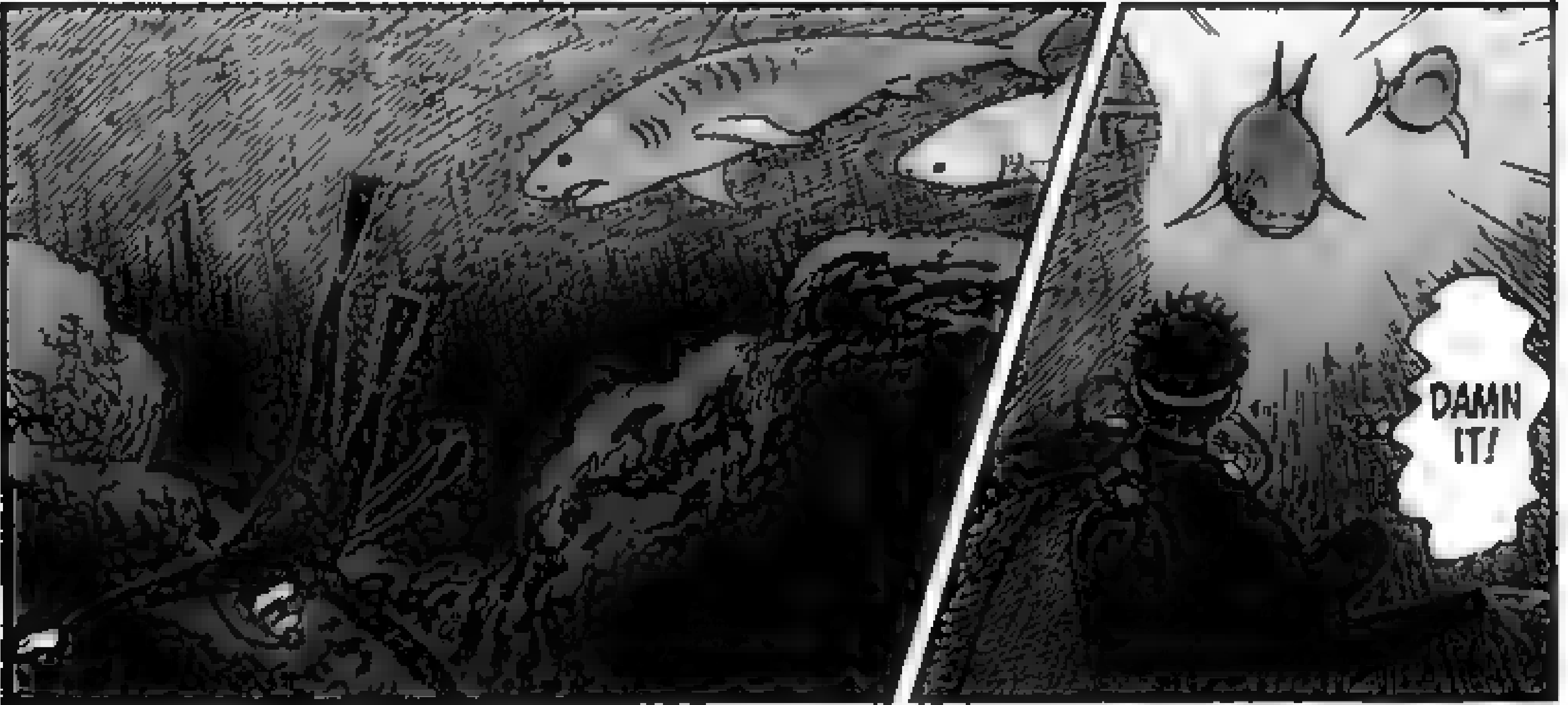
BLRRRRRBB



HM?

BLRRRB

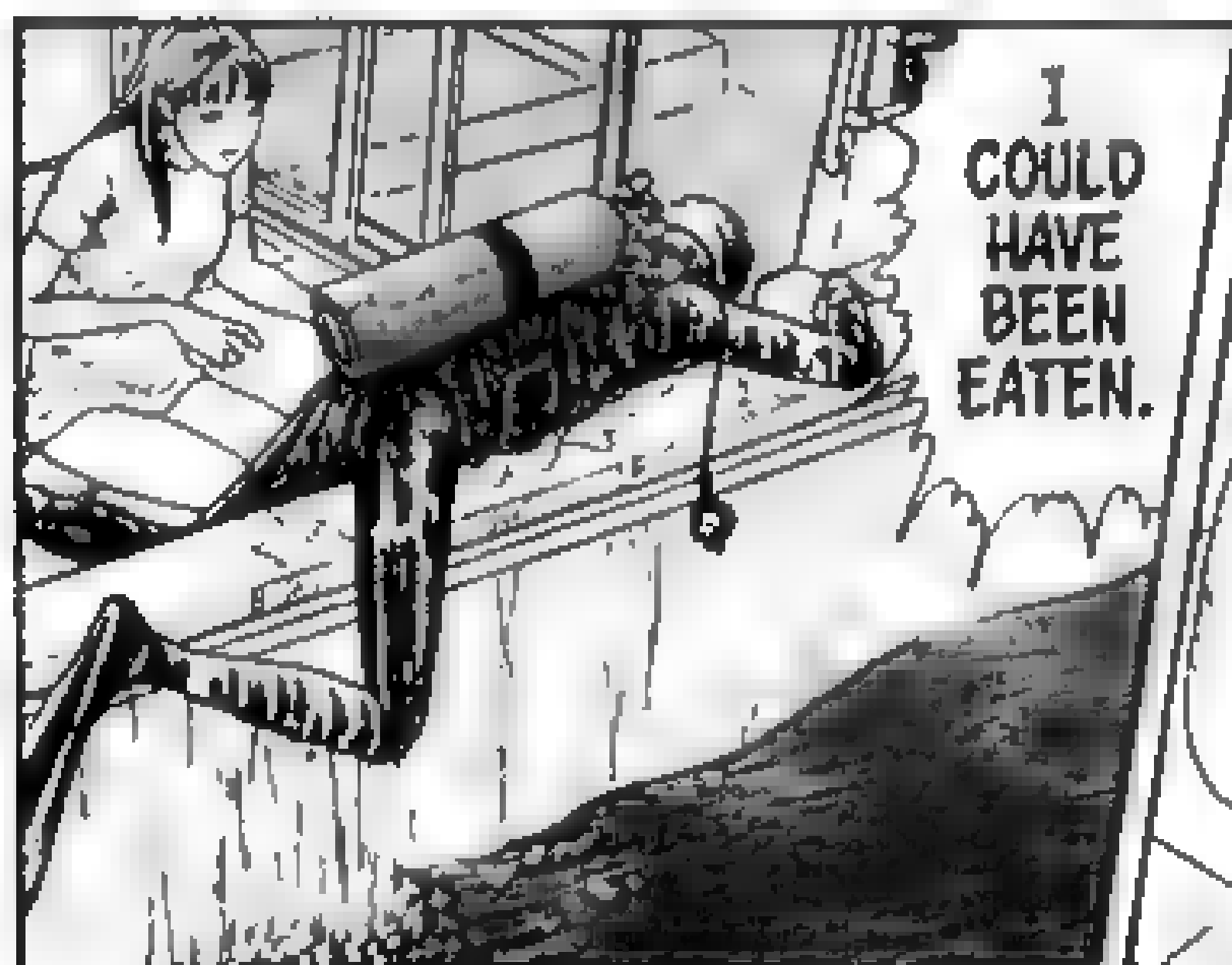








**KAORI!  
GIVE  
ME A  
HAND!**



**I  
COULD  
HAVE  
BEEN  
EATEN.**



**WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
TADASHI?**

**SHARKS!  
THERE'S  
SHARKS  
HERE!**



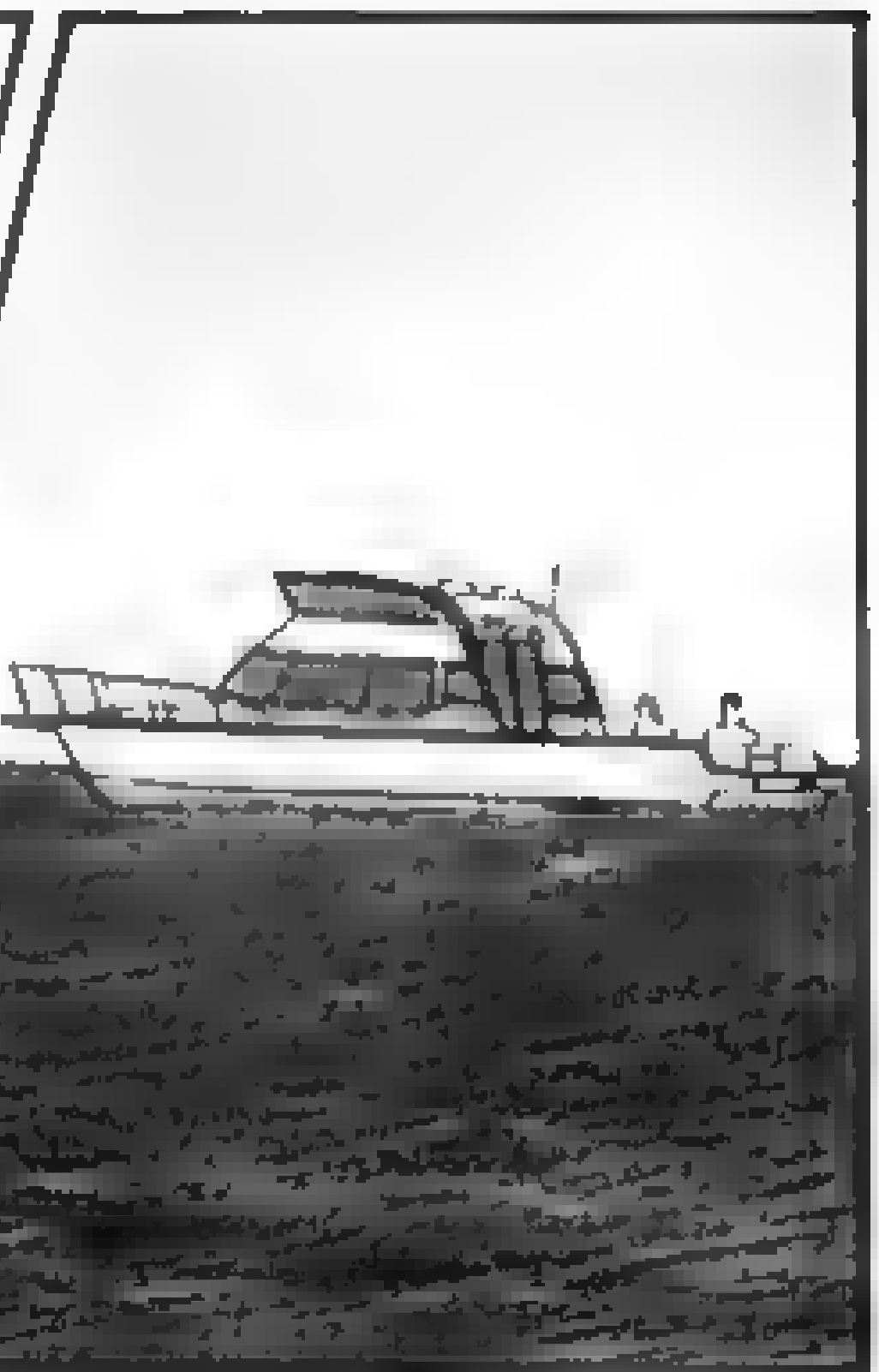
**YOU  
BASTARDS!!  
TRY AGAIN  
TOMORROW!**



**LOOK  
AT  
THEM.**



JESUS...  
I NEARLY  
GOT  
KILLED...



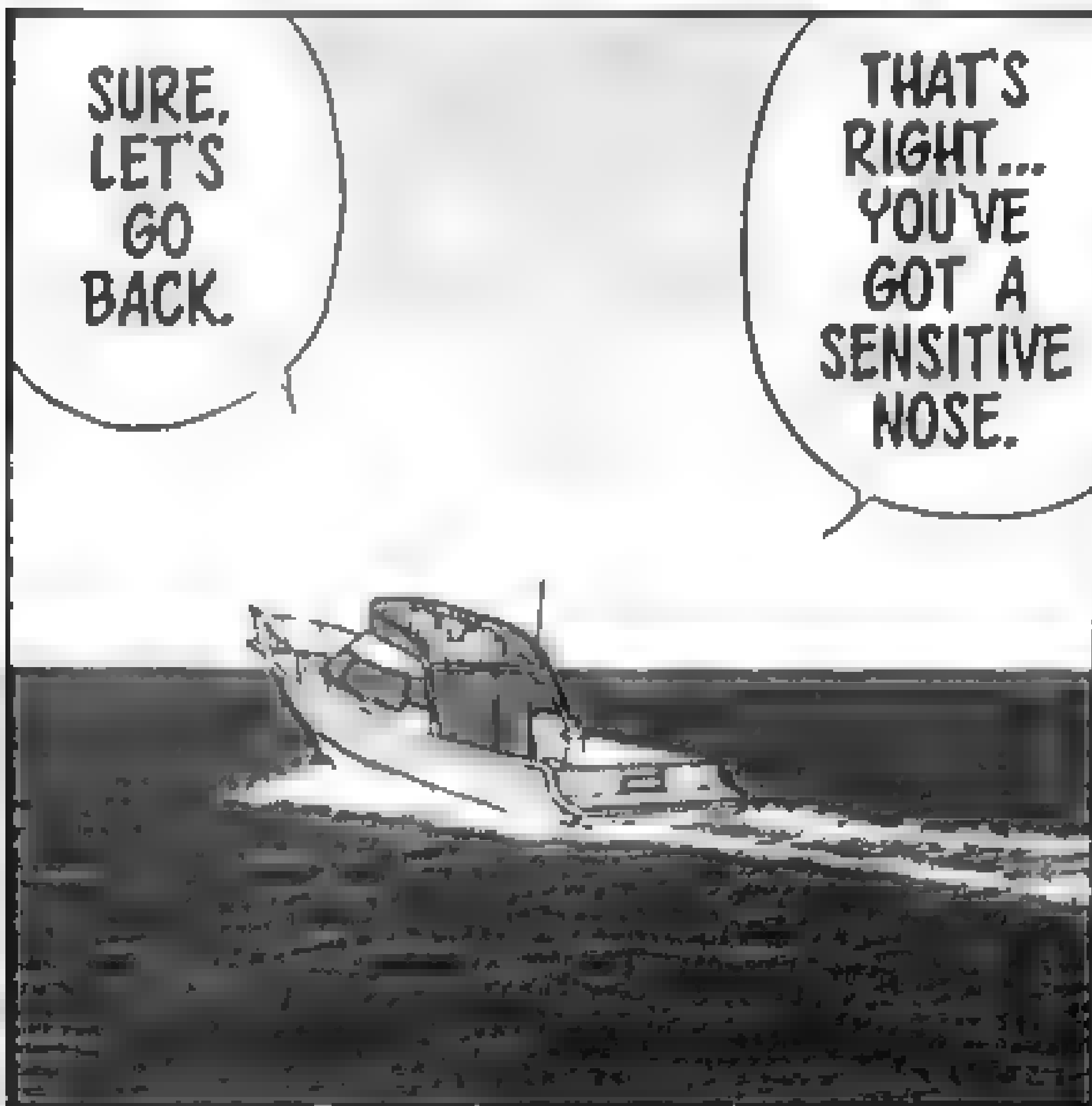
ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?

I WANT TO  
GO BACK  
TO THE  
HOUSE.



--BUT IT  
ZOOMED PAST  
ME LIKE A  
TORPEDO. I  
DIDN'T GET  
A GOOD LOOK  
AT IT, BUT IT  
DIDN'T MOVE  
LIKE A  
FISH.

BEFORE  
THE SHARKS  
CAME, THIS  
THING  
NEARLY  
HIT ME. IT  
WASN'T  
BIG--



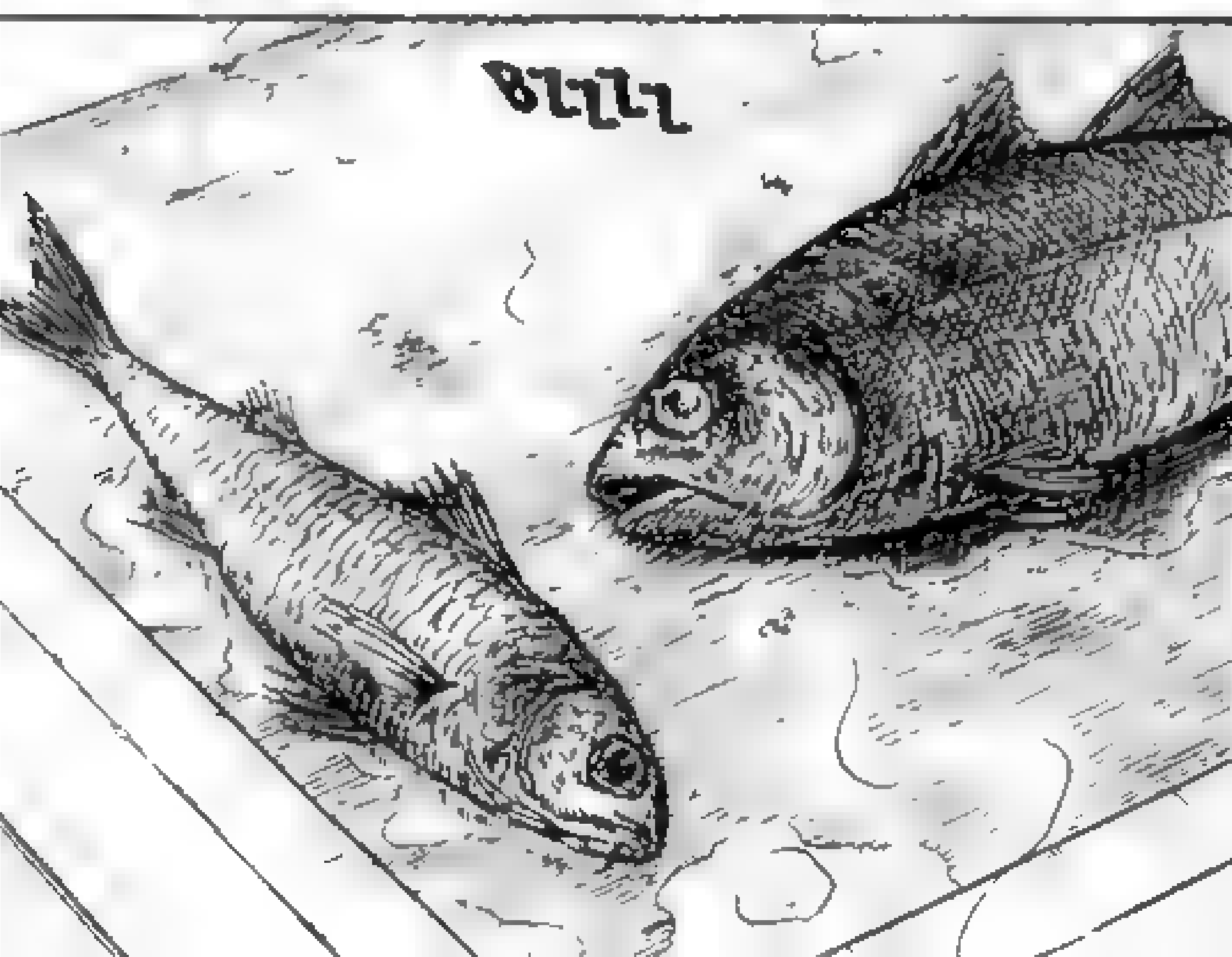
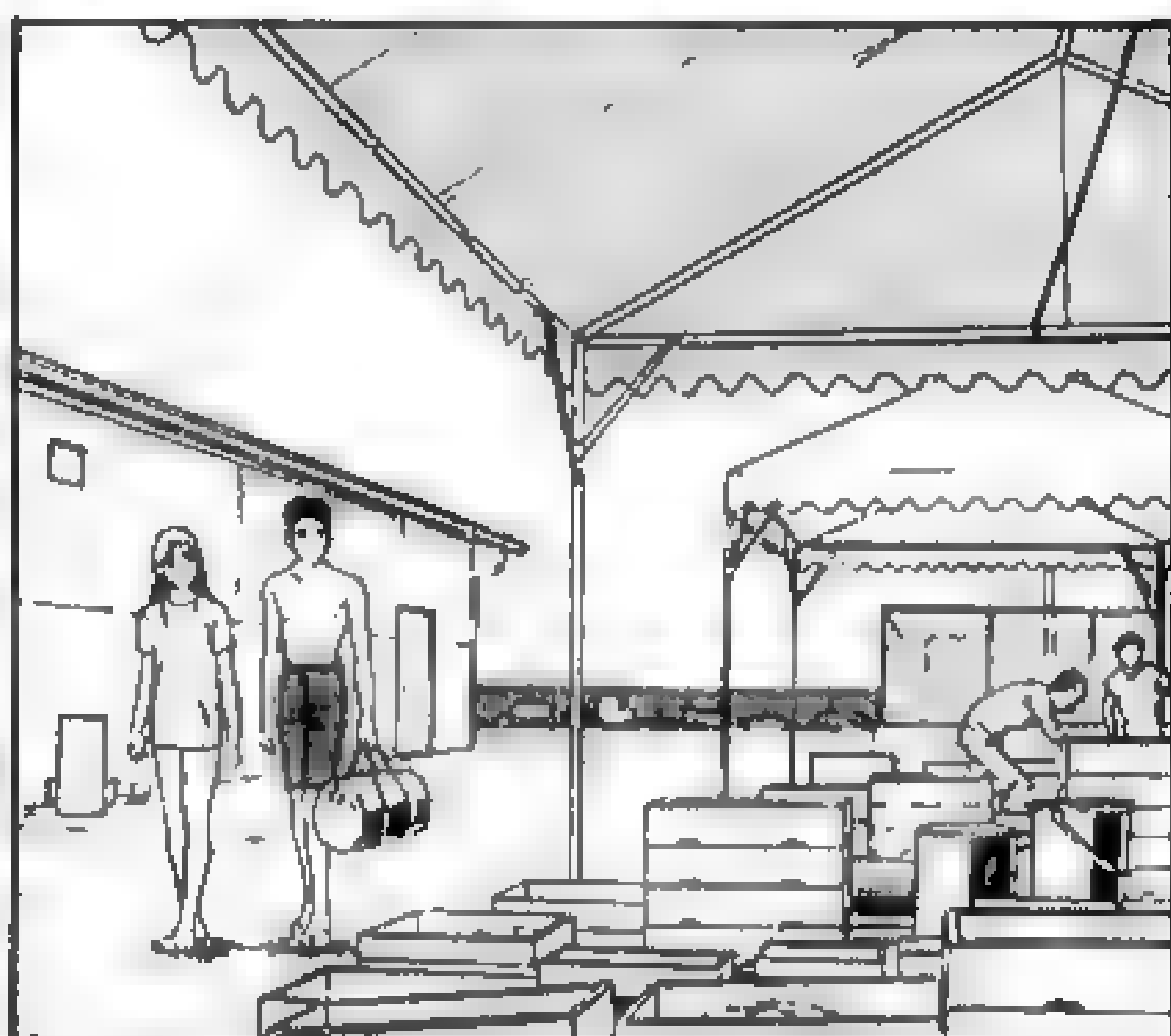
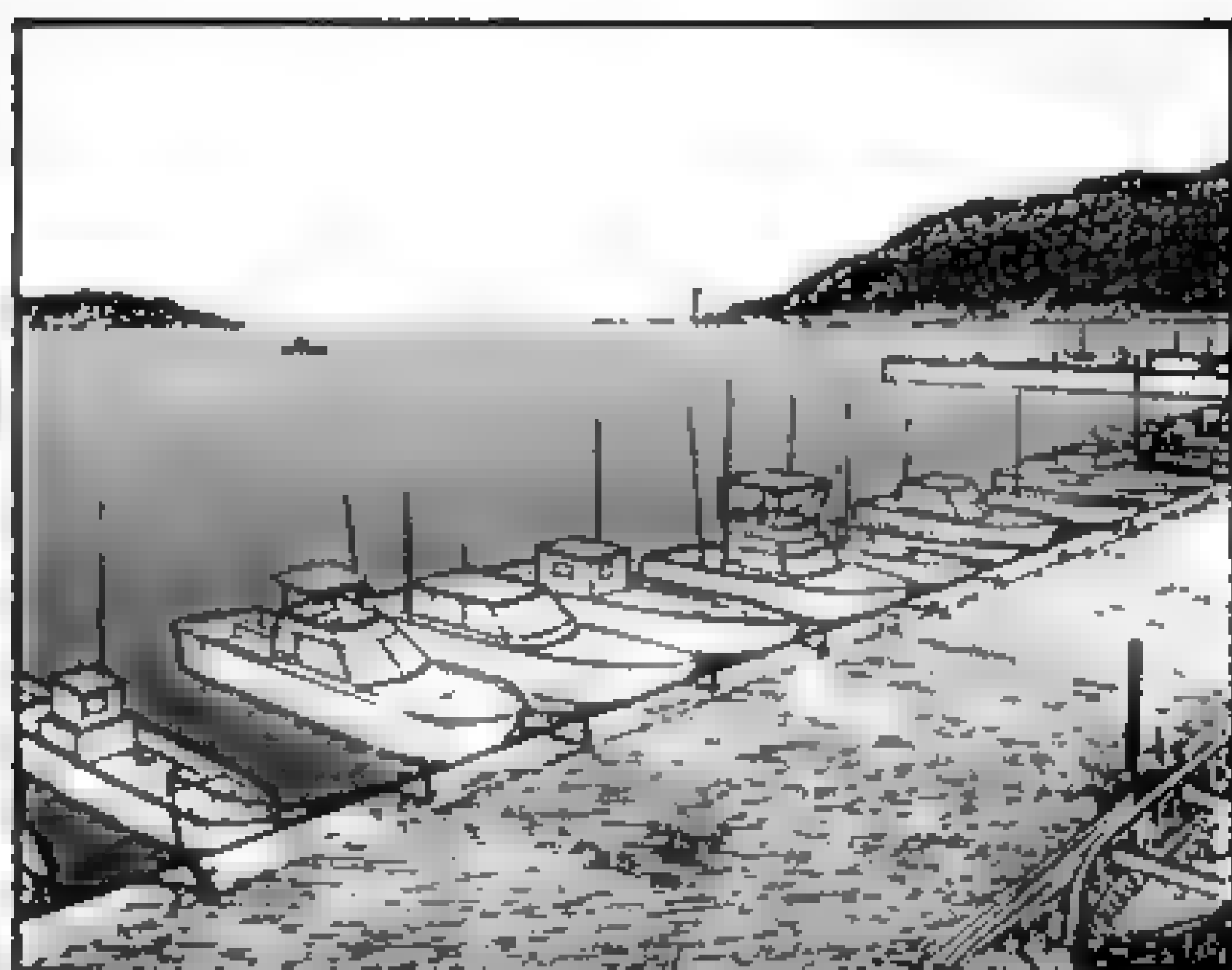
SURE,  
LET'S  
GO  
BACK.

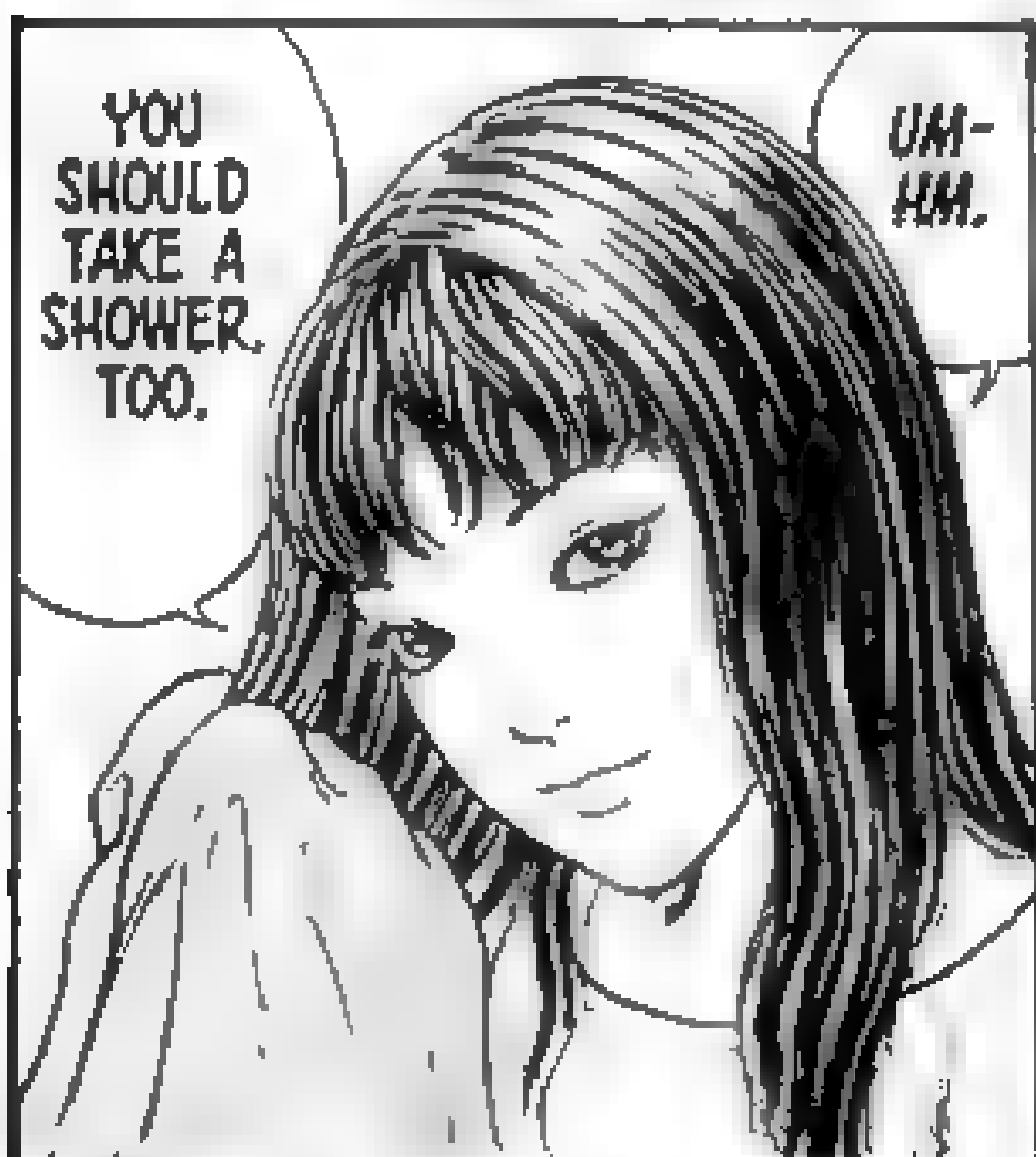
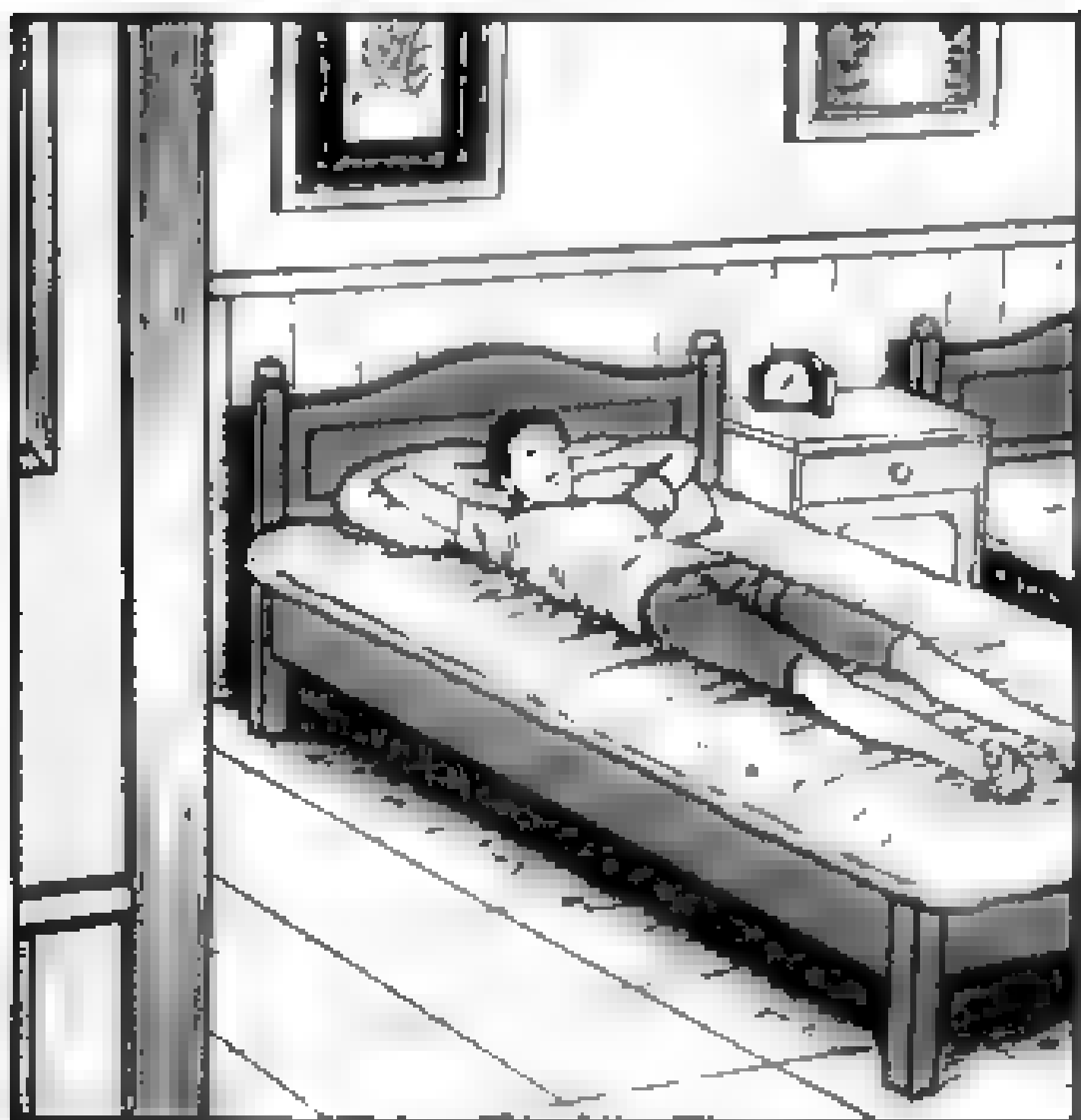
THAT'S  
RIGHT...  
YOU'VE  
GOT A  
SENSITIVE  
NOSE.



THE  
SMELL OF  
THE SEA IS  
MAKING ME  
SICK.

NOT  
REALLY.







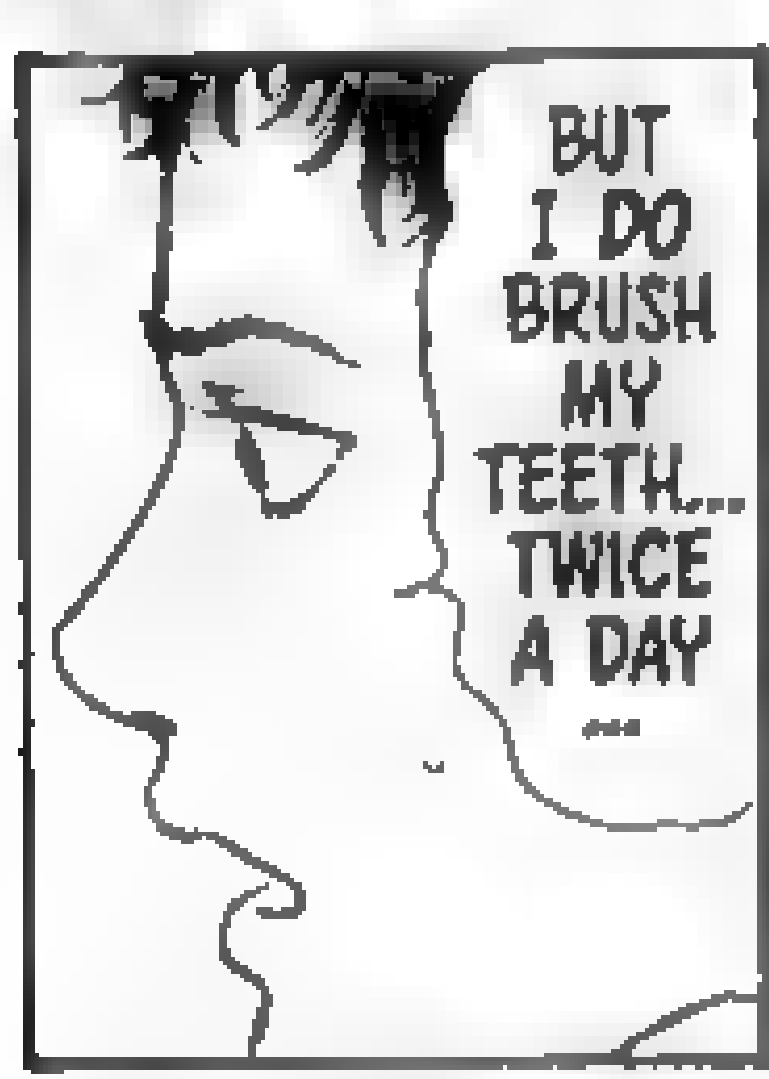


YES  
I DID. I  
JUST PUT  
UP WITH IT  
EVER SINCE  
WE STARTED  
GOING OUT.

BUT YOU  
DIDN'T  
MIND  
KISSING  
ME  
BEFORE.

I  
HAVE  
BAD  
BREATH  
?

H  
A  
H  
  
JUST  
A  
LITTLE  
...



BUT  
I DO  
BRUSH  
MY  
TEETH...  
TWICE  
A DAY  
...



SO  
BRUSH  
YOUR  
TEETH  
FROM  
NOW  
ON.  
OKAY?

BUT  
I CAN'T  
TAKE IT  
ANY-  
MORE.



YOU  
JUST  
--



THAT  
WOULD  
BE  
NICE.



IF WE KISS  
TEN TIMES  
A DAY THEN  
I HAVE TO  
BRUSH TEN  
TIMES?

ARE YOU  
SAYING I HAVE  
TO DO IT  
EVERY TIME  
WE KISS?



GIVE  
ME A  
BREAK!  
I CAN'T  
DEAL WITH  
YOUR  
NEUROSES!!

IF IT  
WASN'T FOR ME,  
YOU WOULDN'T  
BE HERE IN  
OKINAWA. I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU WANT  
ANYMORE.

AND NOW ALL  
YOU DO IS COMPLAIN  
ABOUT THE SMELL,  
OR THAT THE FISH  
STINK...THE FISH  
STINK! WHAT A  
SURPRISE!

WE TOOK  
THIS TRIP  
BECAUSE  
YOU  
WANTED TO  
BE OUT AT  
SEA!!

YOU'RE  
JUST BEING  
SELFISH!

THIS HOUSE,  
THE BOAT, AND  
EVERYTHING ELSE  
HERE IS YOUR  
UNCLE'S!

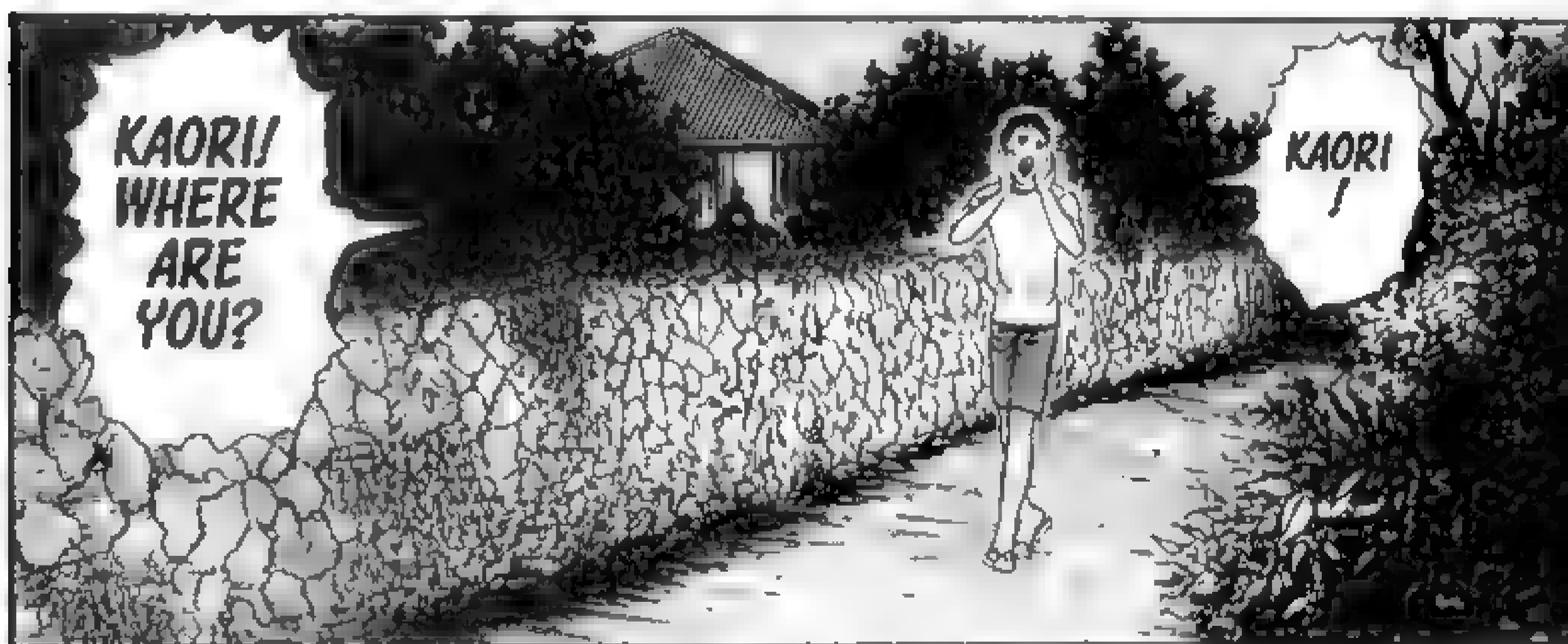
BESIDES,  
IT'S NOT  
LIKE YOU  
OWN THIS  
PLACE.

WHAT  
THE HELL'S  
YOUR  
PROBLEM  
?  
  
DO YOU  
HAVE TO  
THROW A  
FIT EVERY  
TIME I ASK  
FOR SOME-  
THING?

OH,  
YOU'LL  
GET YOUR  
MONEY  
BACK!

I  
PAID  
FOR  
THE  
PLANE  
FLIGHT  
!









**AIEEEEE!**

AH?



WOW...  
IT  
REALLY  
REEKS...



WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
KAORI?



THERE  
YOU  
ARE.

I WAS  
LOOKING  
ALL OVER  
TOWN FOR  
YOU.



**SHFFFFF**

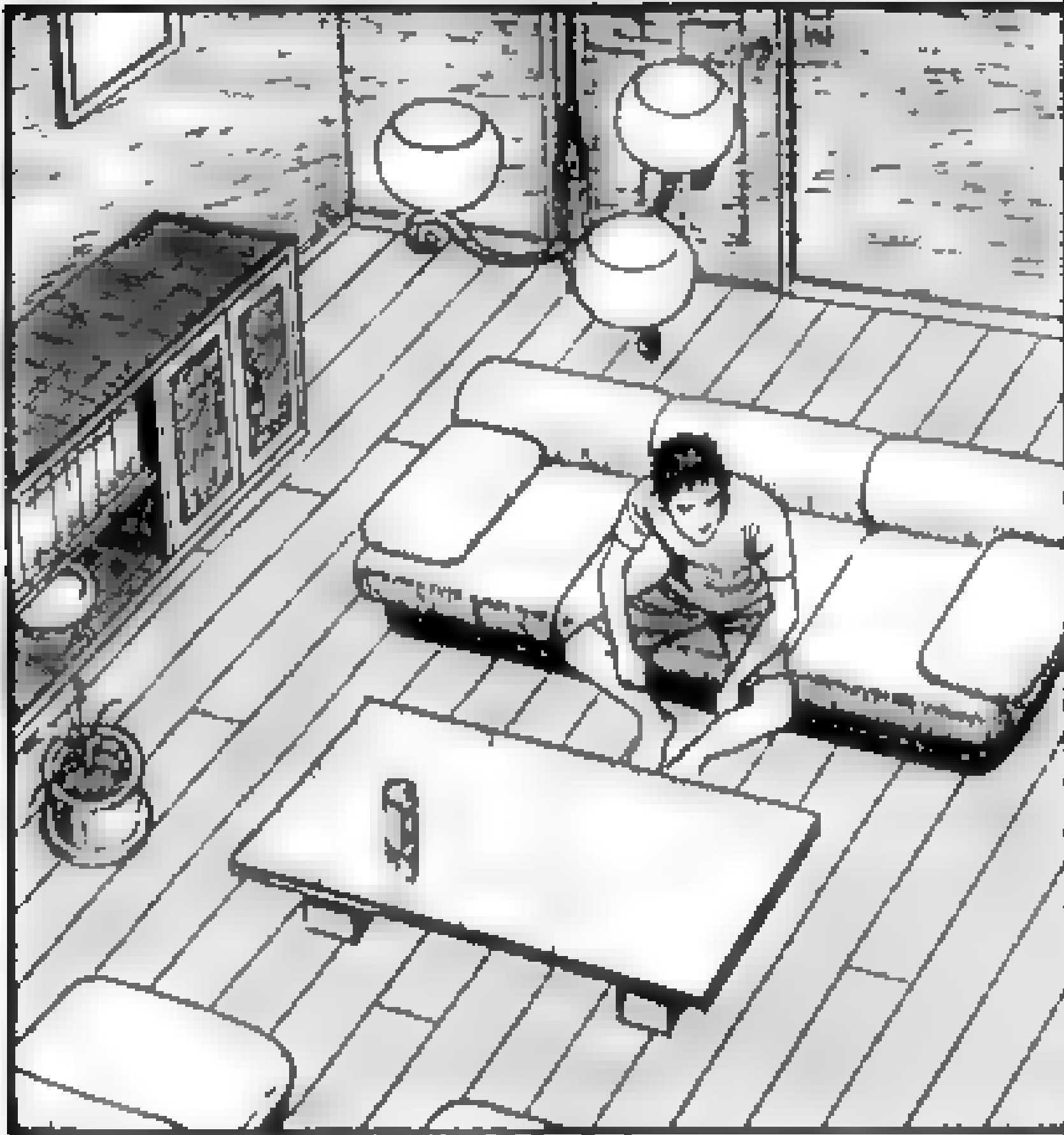


WHAT?  
IS IT A  
SNAKE?

TADASHI...THERE'S  
SOMETHING IN  
THE GRASS...









IN FACT...  
IT'S NOT  
JUST  
STICKING  
TO US...

I  
KNOW.



TADASHI!  
DO  
SOMETHING!!



IT'S  
INSIDE  
THE  
HOUSE...

IT  
SMELLS  
HERE,  
TOO...



...GIVE  
ME A  
BREAK.

...WHILE  
YOU GO AND  
BUY AIR  
FRESHENER!  
ALL RIGHT?

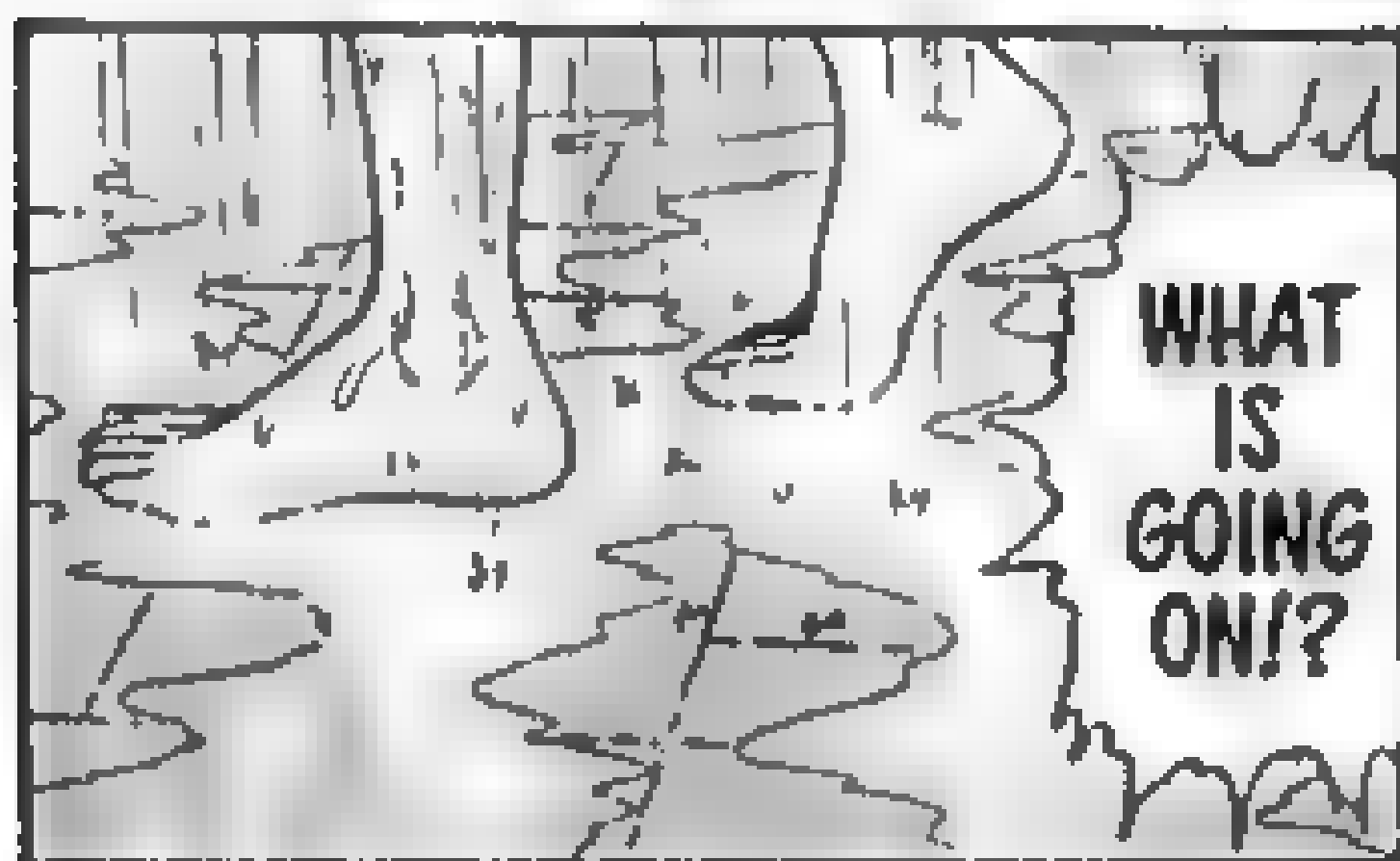
OKAY?  
I'M GOING  
TO TAKE  
ANOTHER  
SHOWER...

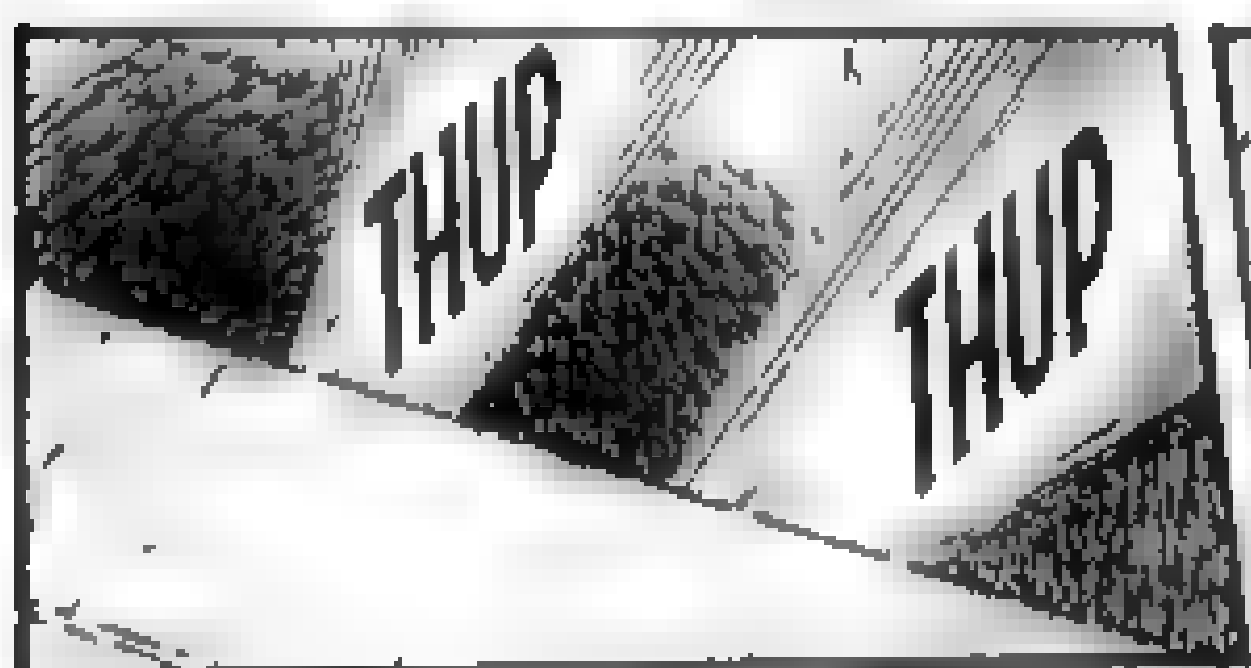
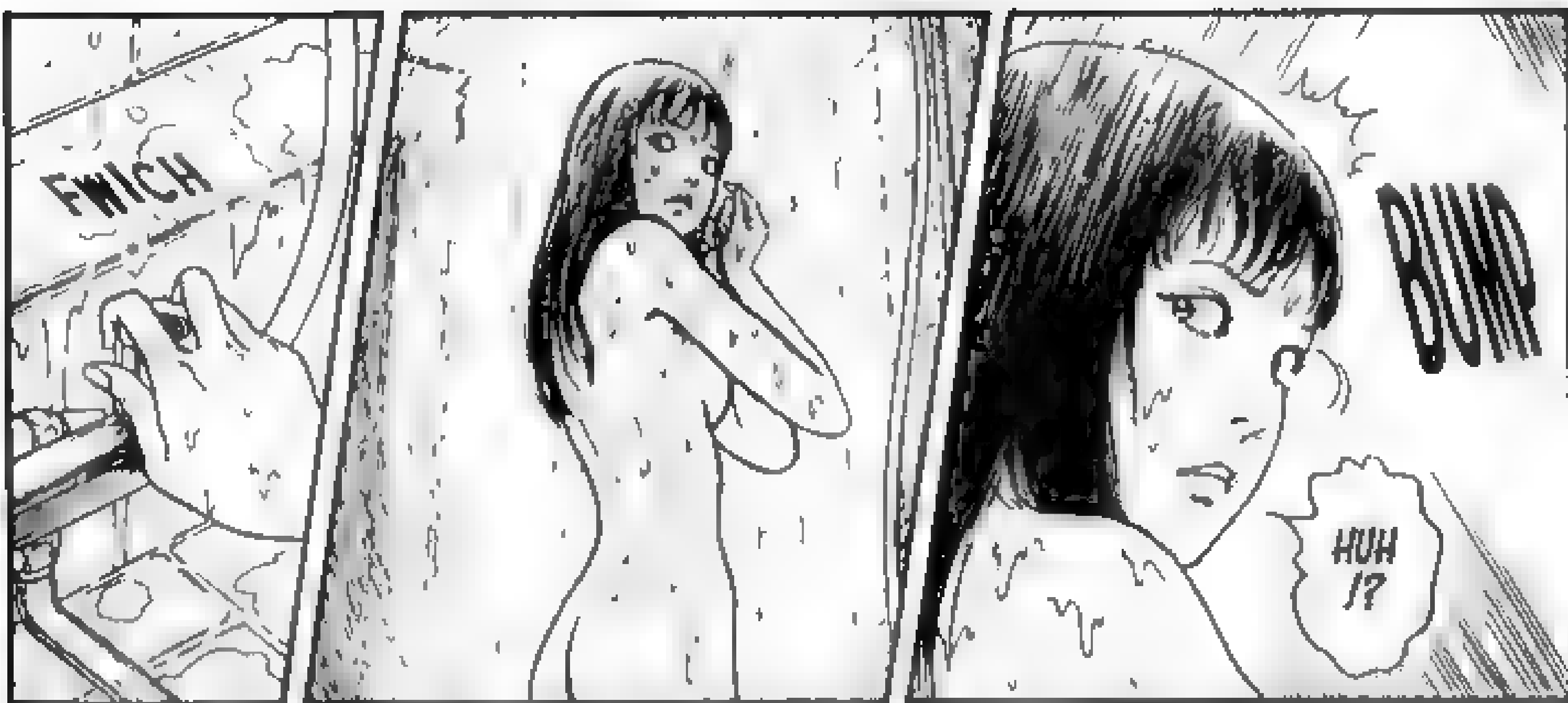
THERE'S  
NOTHING  
I CAN DO  
ABOUT THIS  
SMELL...

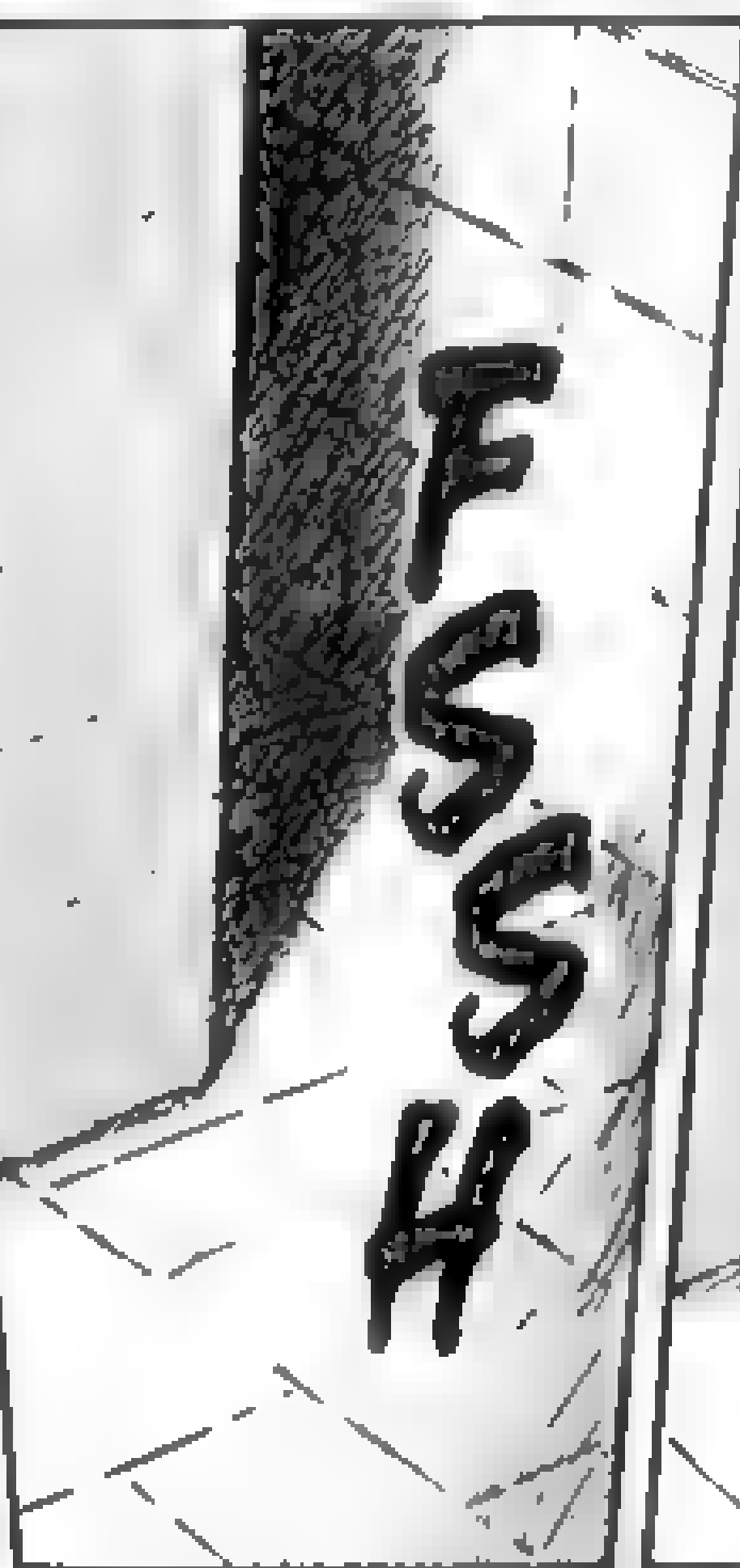
GO BUY  
SOME DIS-  
INFECTANT!  
SOME AIR  
FRESHENER!  
ANYTHING!

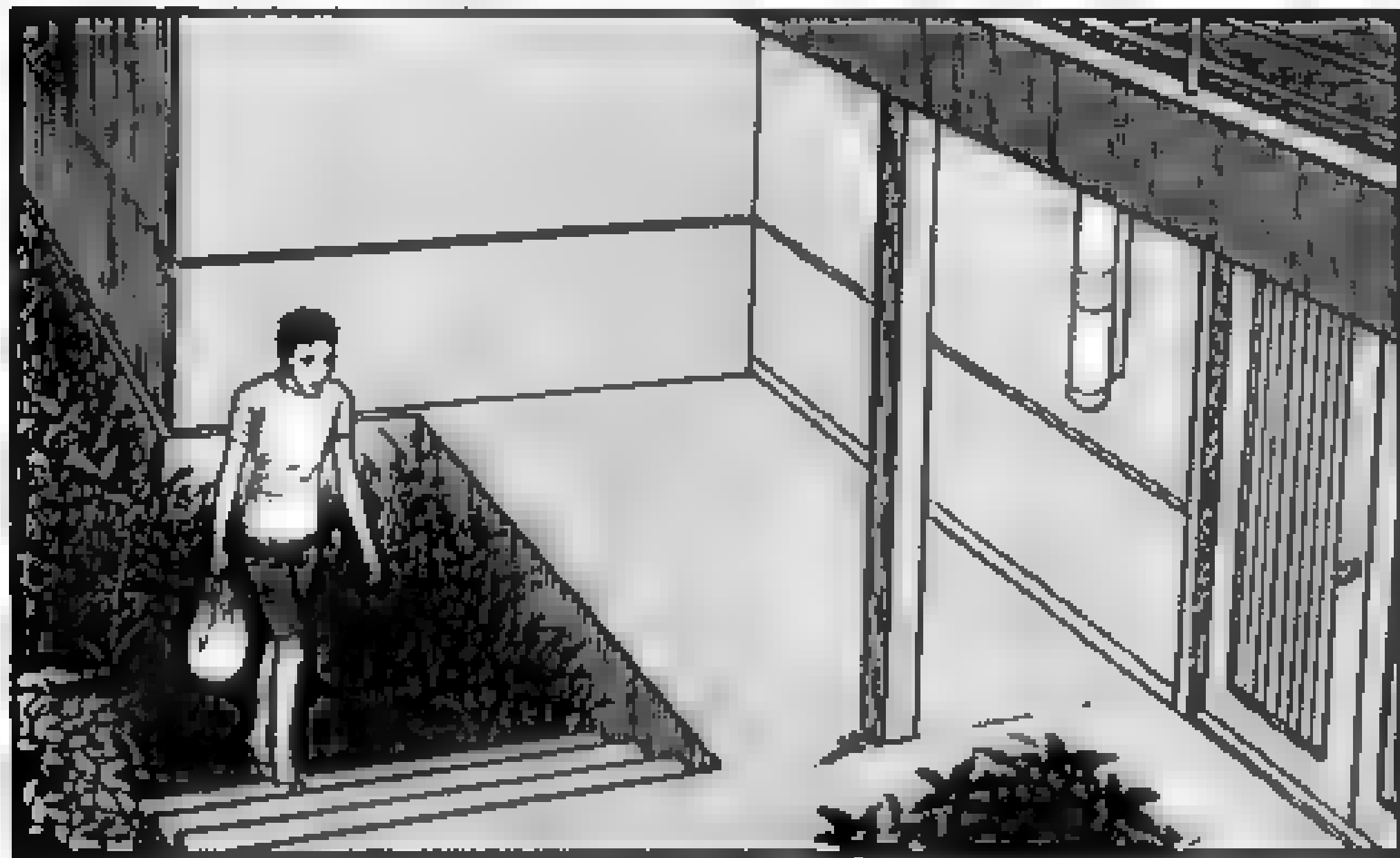
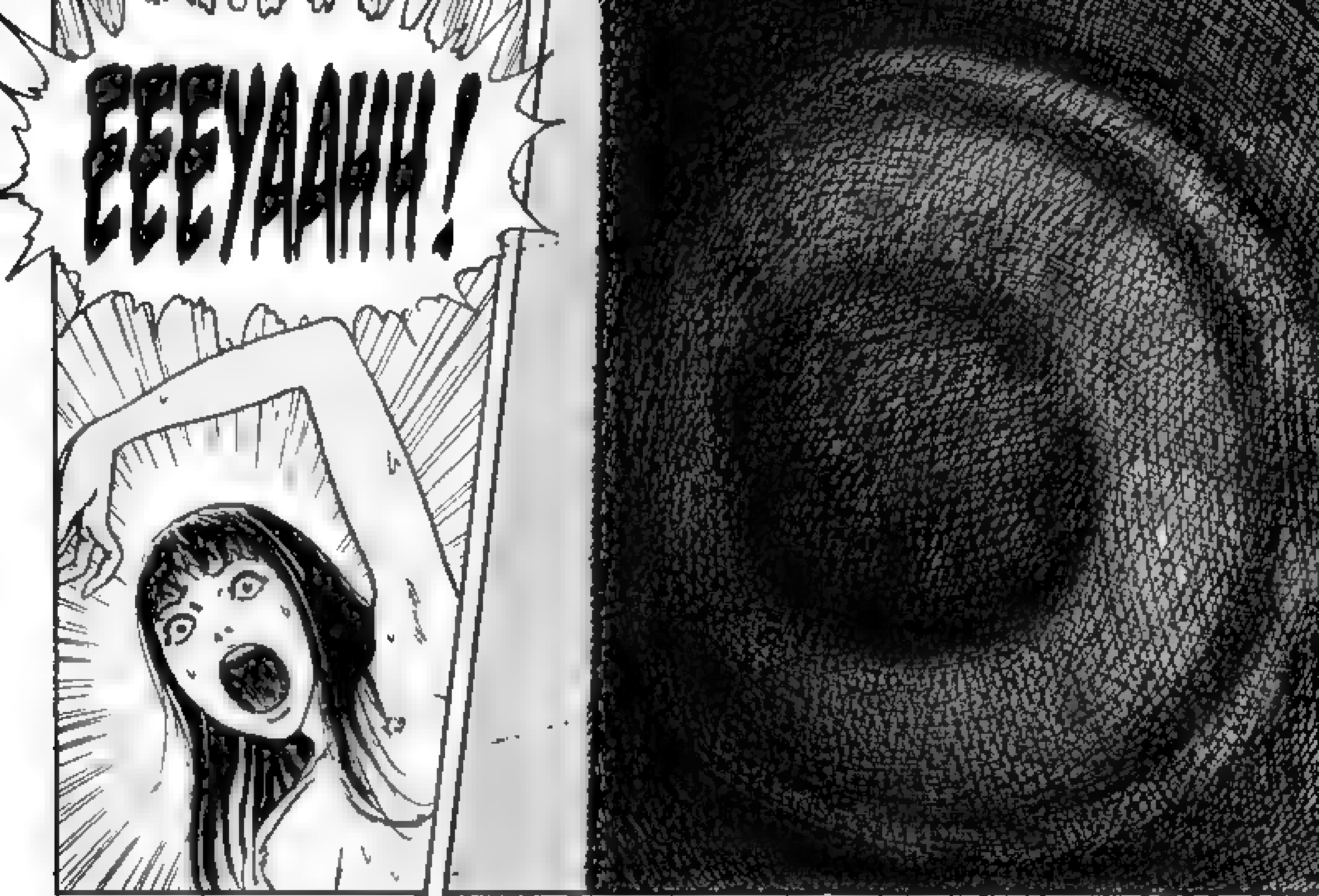












WHAT...  
IS THIS  
STENCH  
!?

KOKO  
KOKO  
KOKO

AAGH!

KAORU  
WHERE  
ARE  
YOU!?

HEY...  
KAORI?

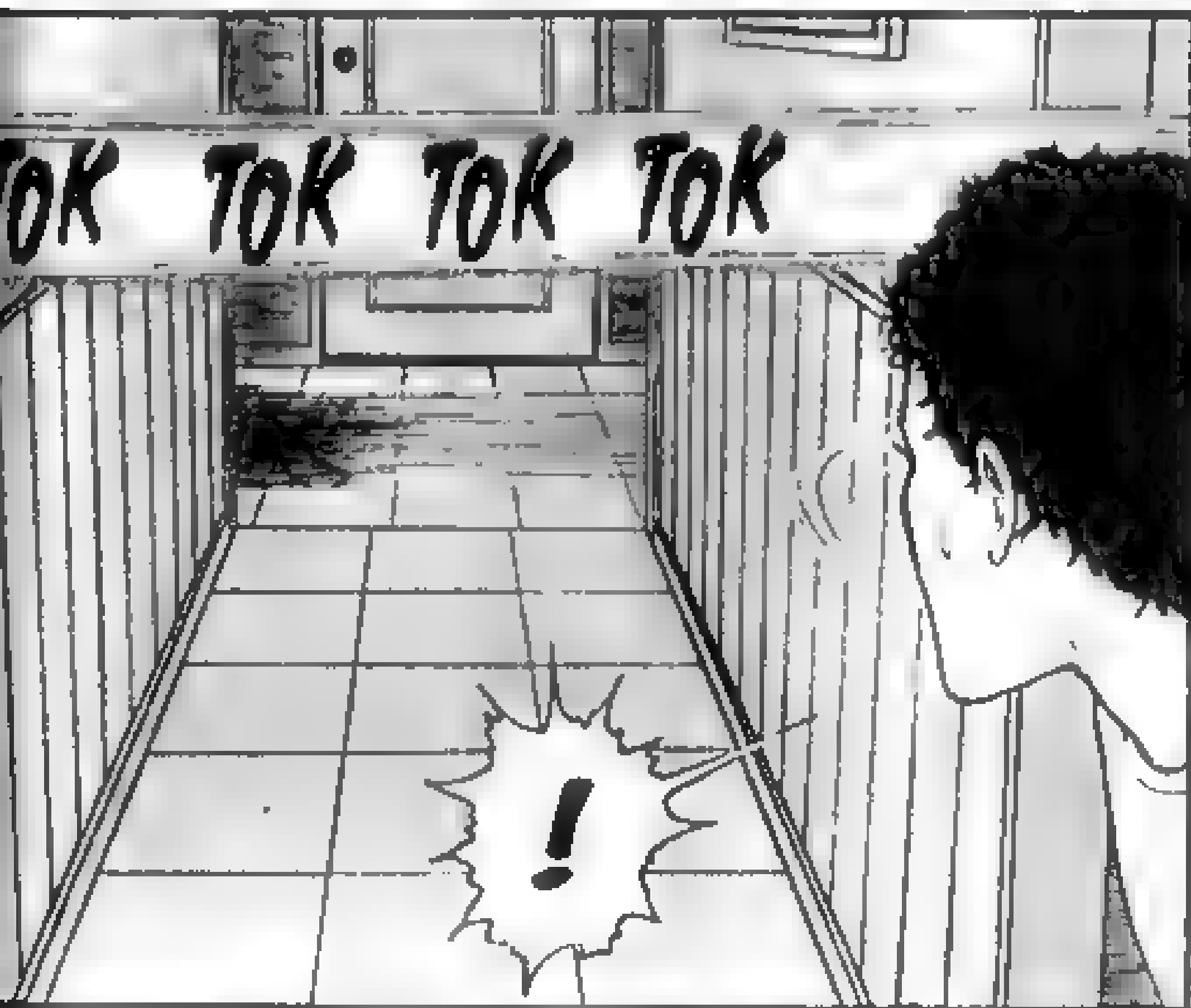
I'M  
GETTING  
DIZZY...

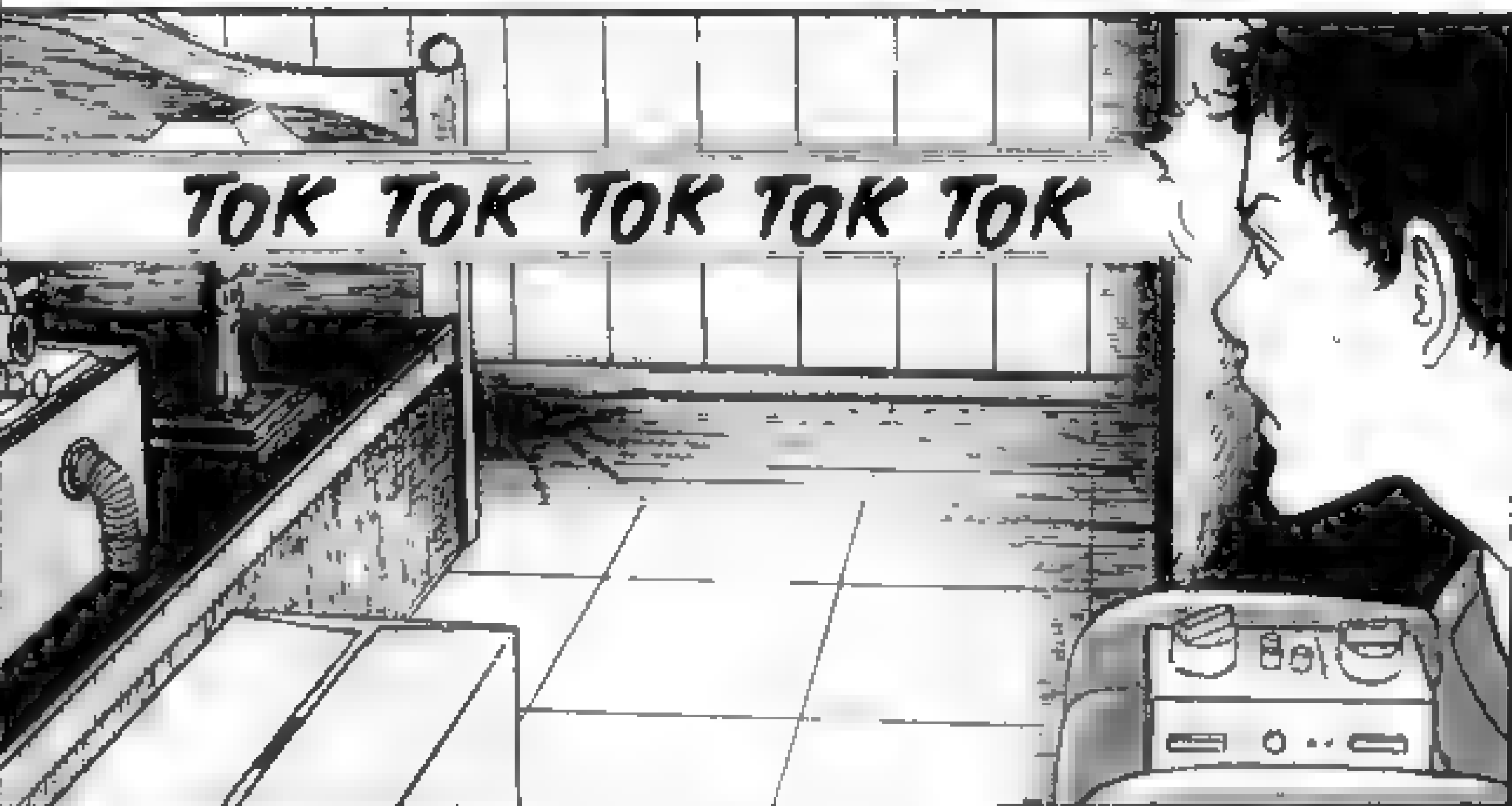
...





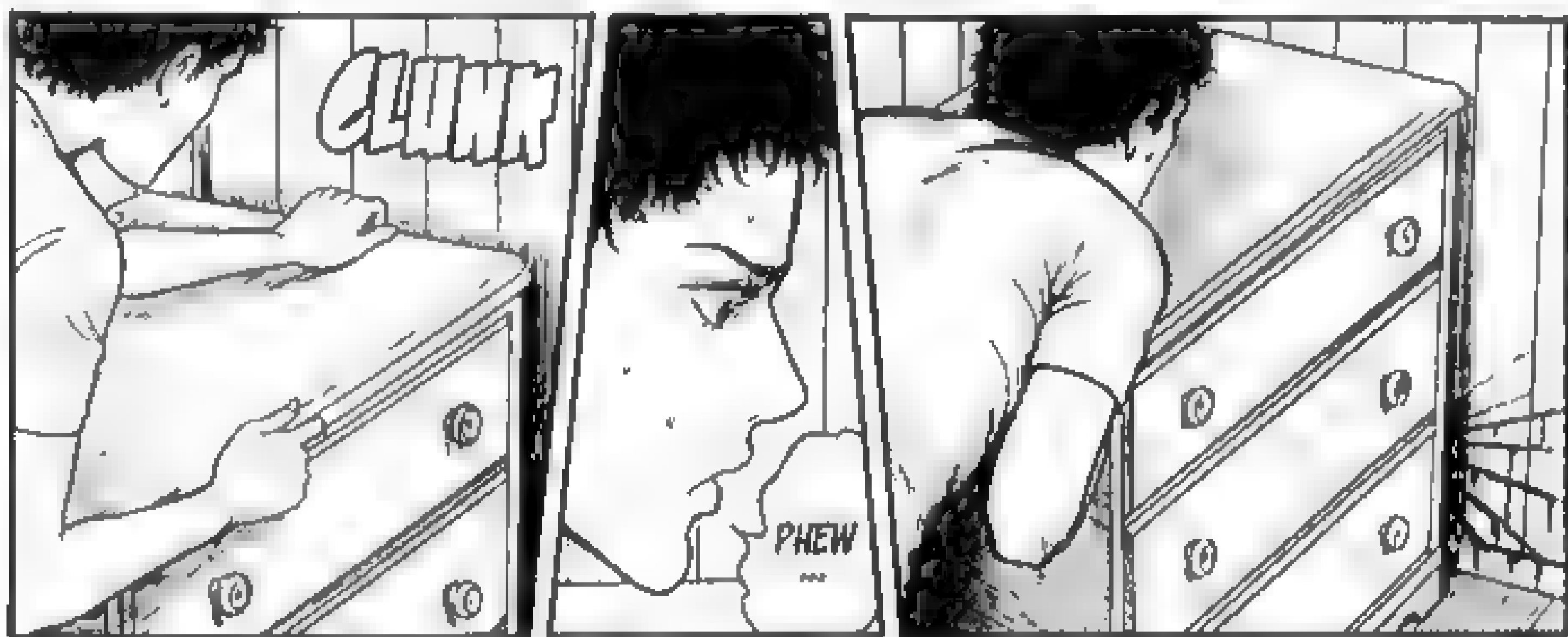
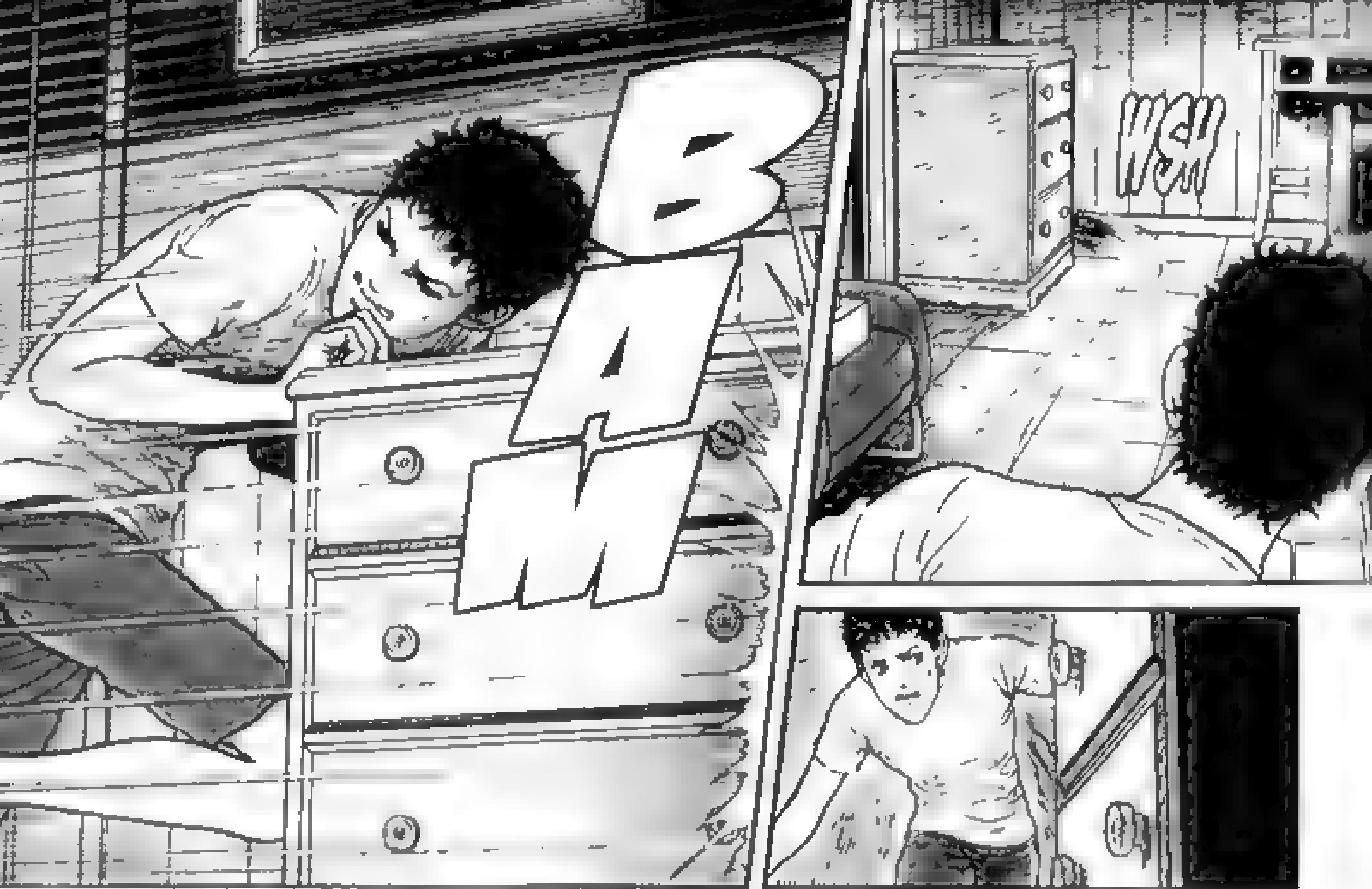


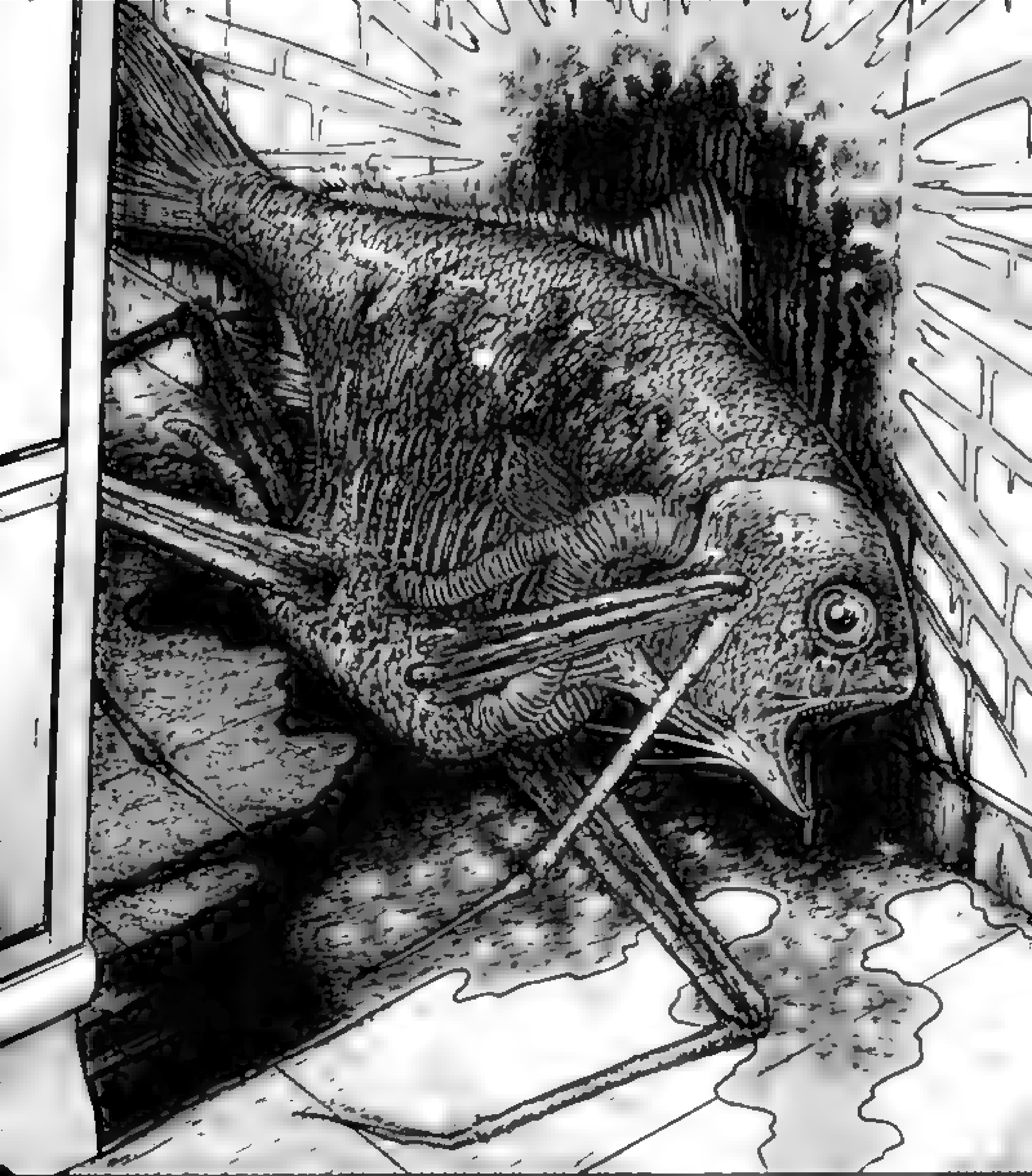






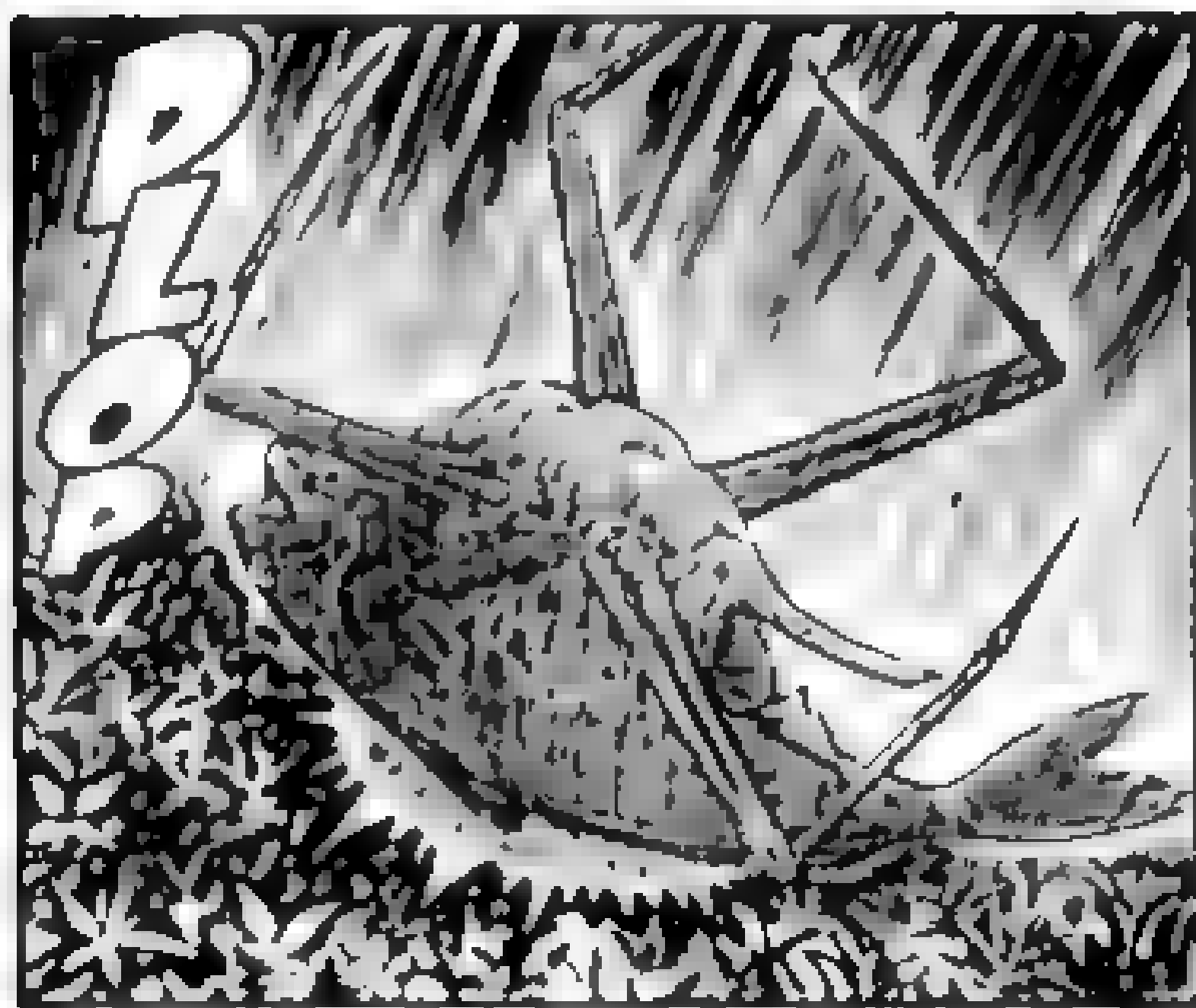






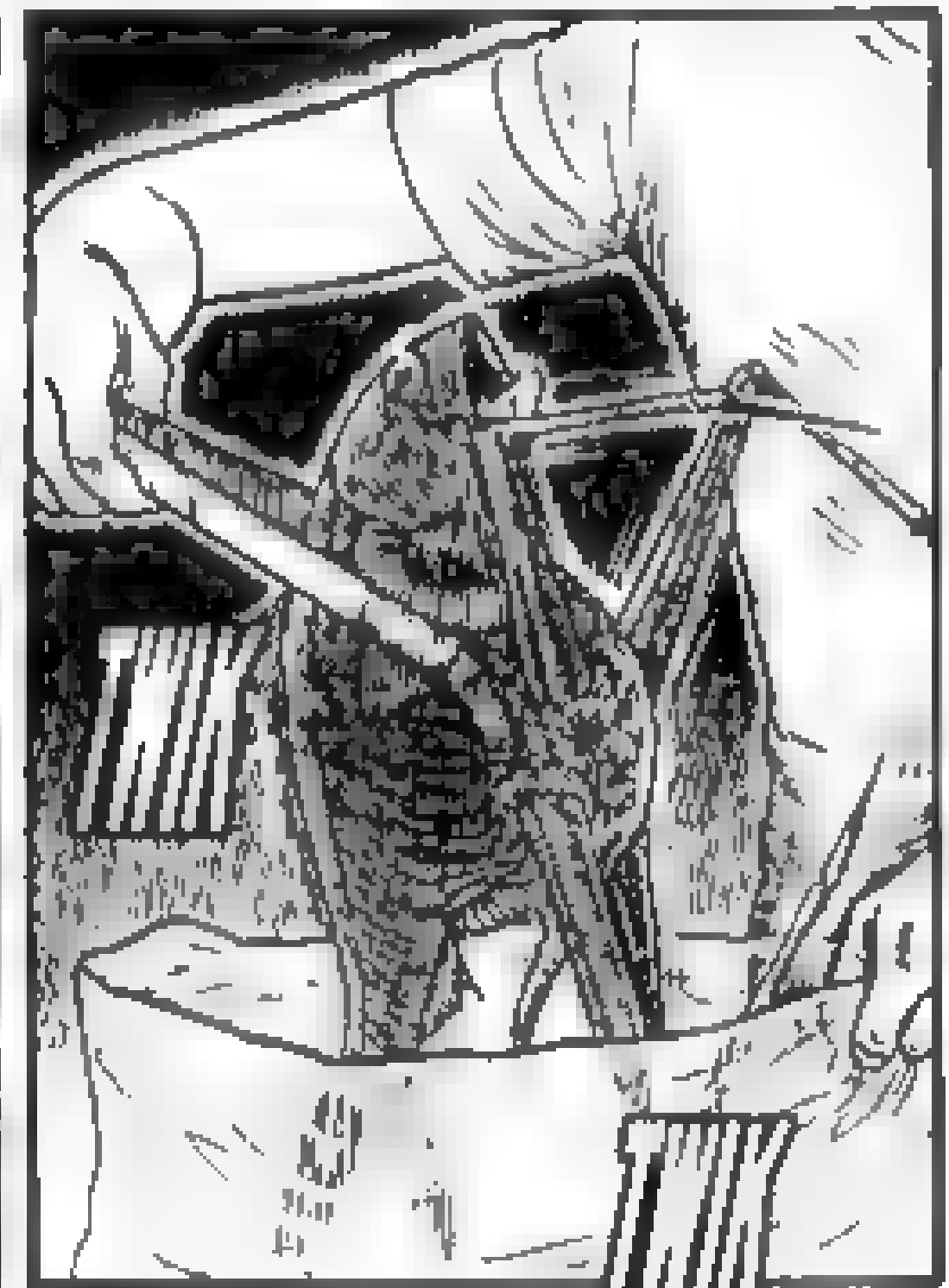
## 2/ The Death Stench in the Air















ALL  
RIGHT.  
THEN.

PHEW  
...



SHE'S  
GOT A  
TEMPERA-  
TURE.



KAORI  
...



ALL WE HAVE  
TO DO IS KEEP  
THE WINDOWS  
OPEN AND  
THE STENCH  
WILL...

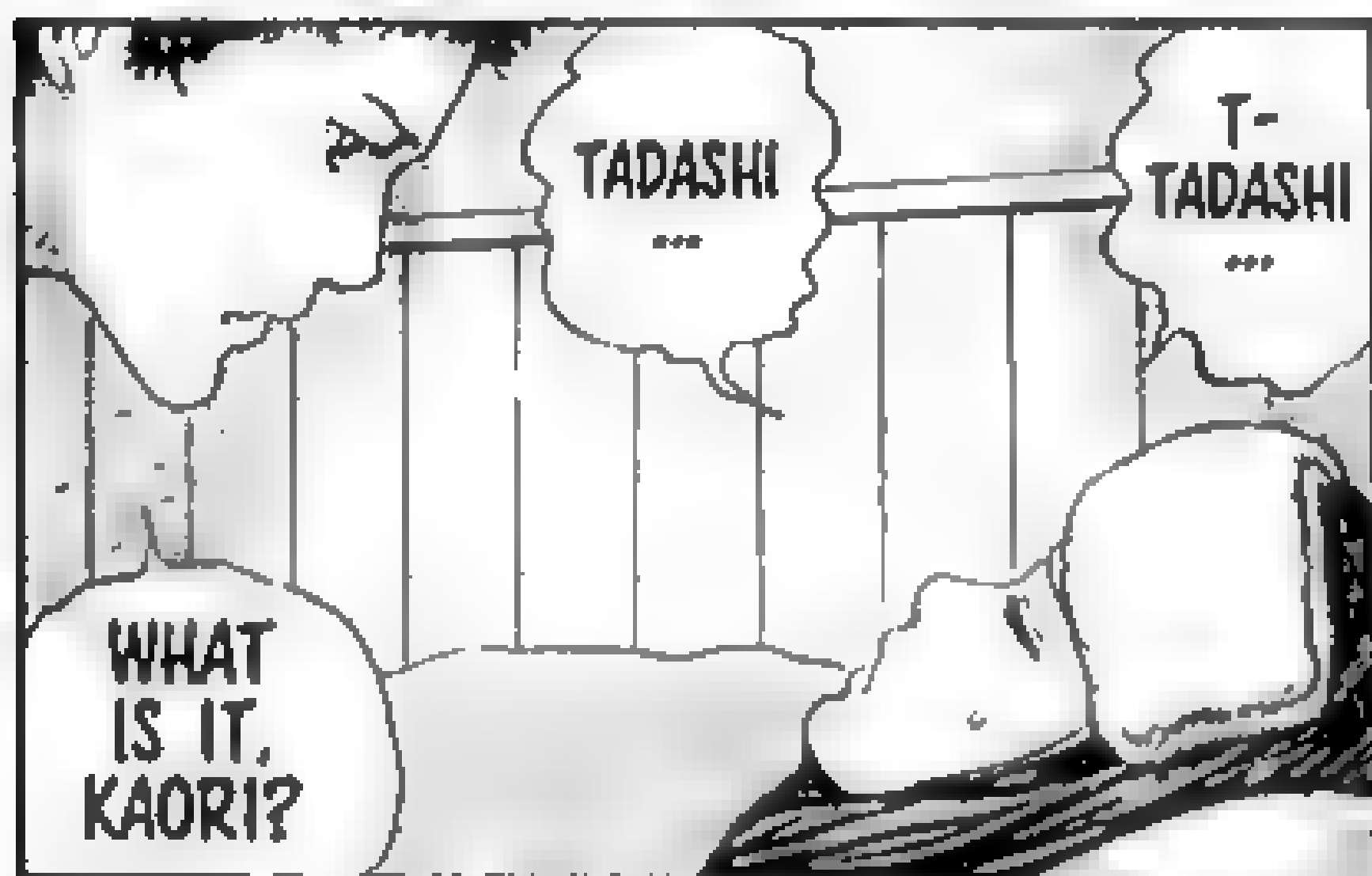
KAORI,  
IT'S  
ALL  
RIGHT  
NOW.



OKAY,  
WE'LL  
LEAVE  
TOMOR-  
ROW.

TADASHI...  
I WANT  
TO GO  
HOME...

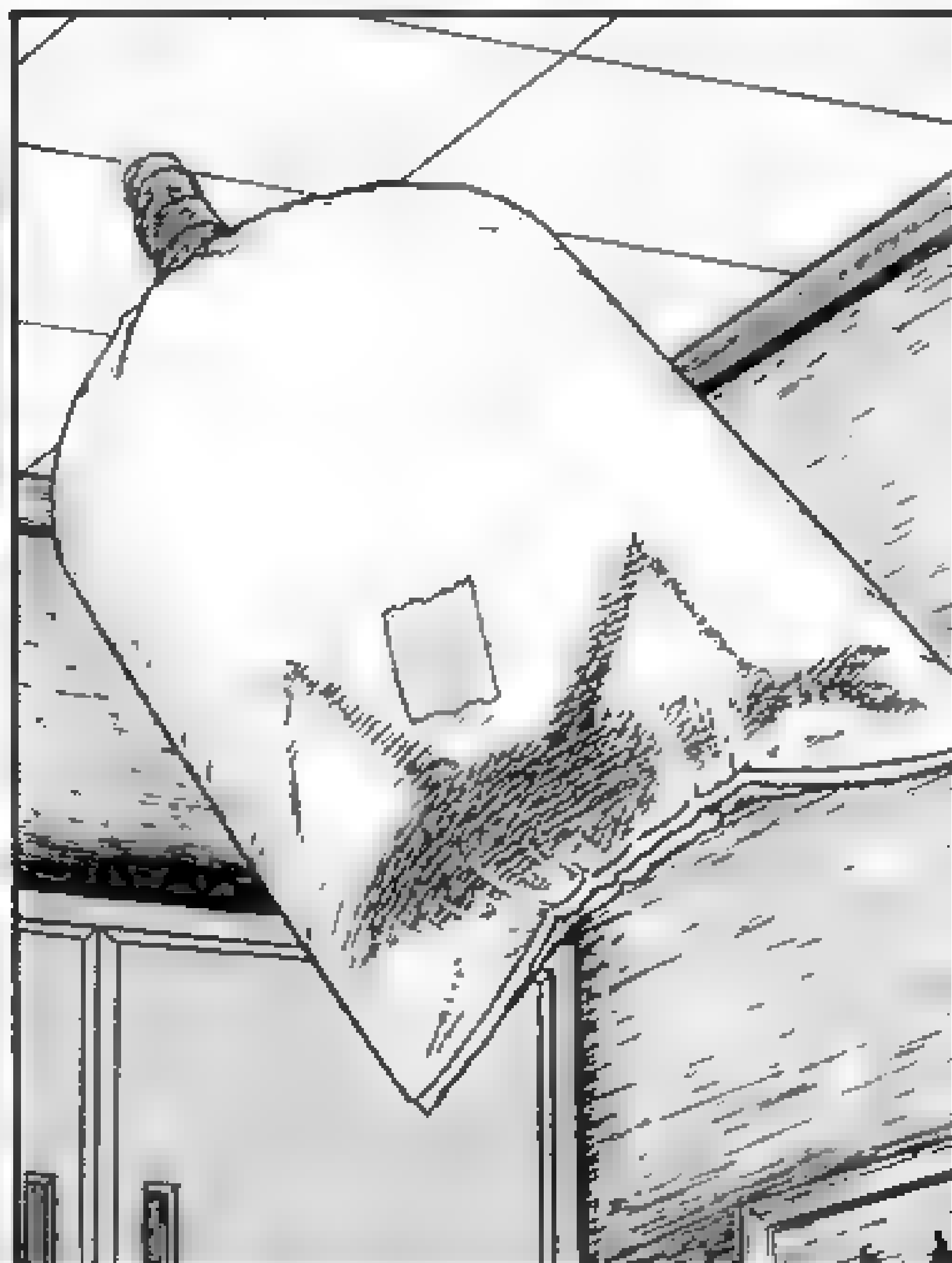
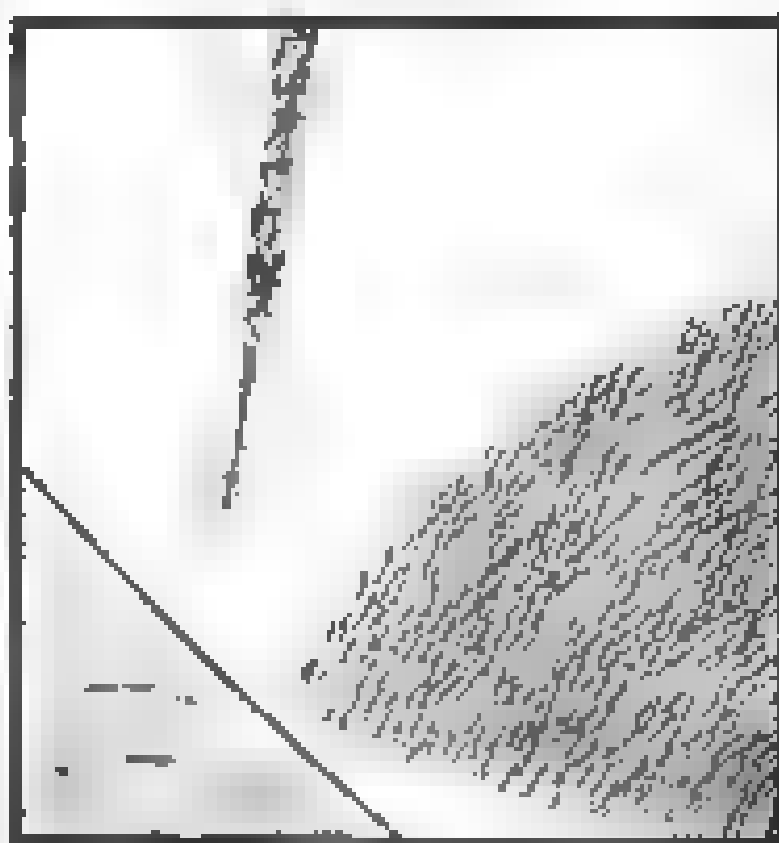
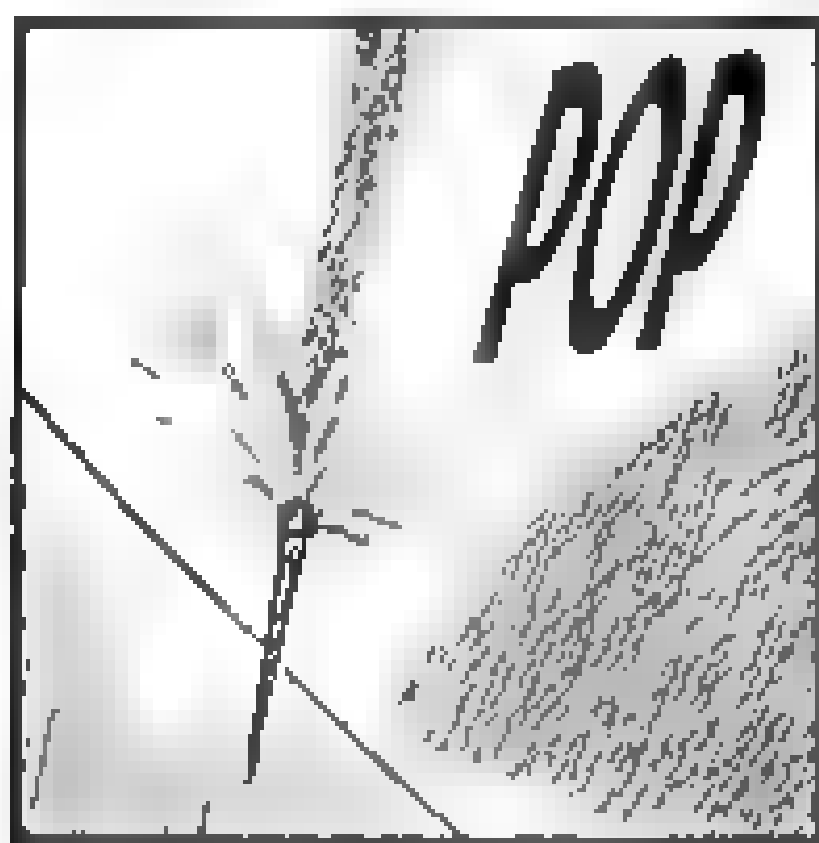
I  
CAN'T  
TAKE THIS  
ANY-  
MORE...



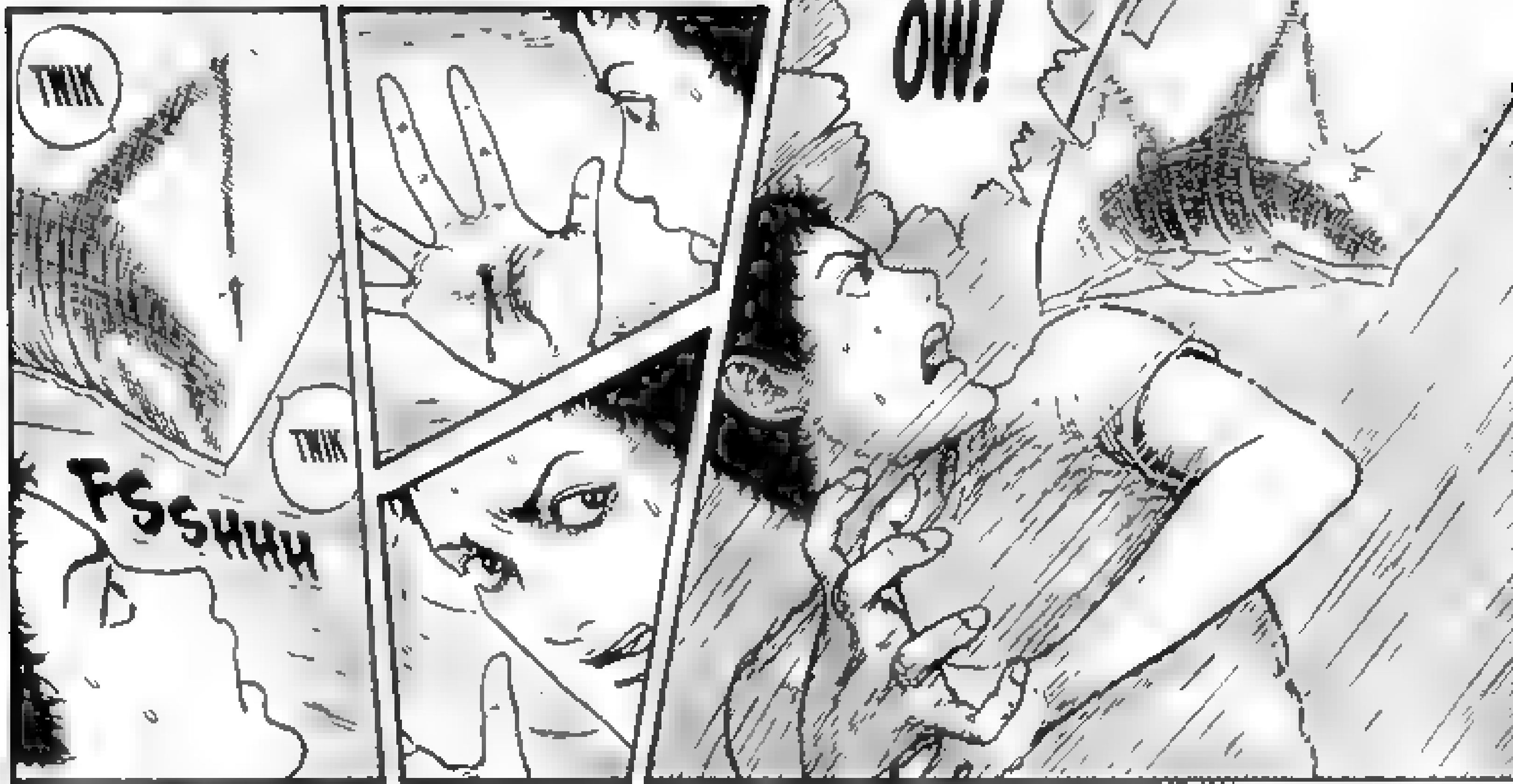








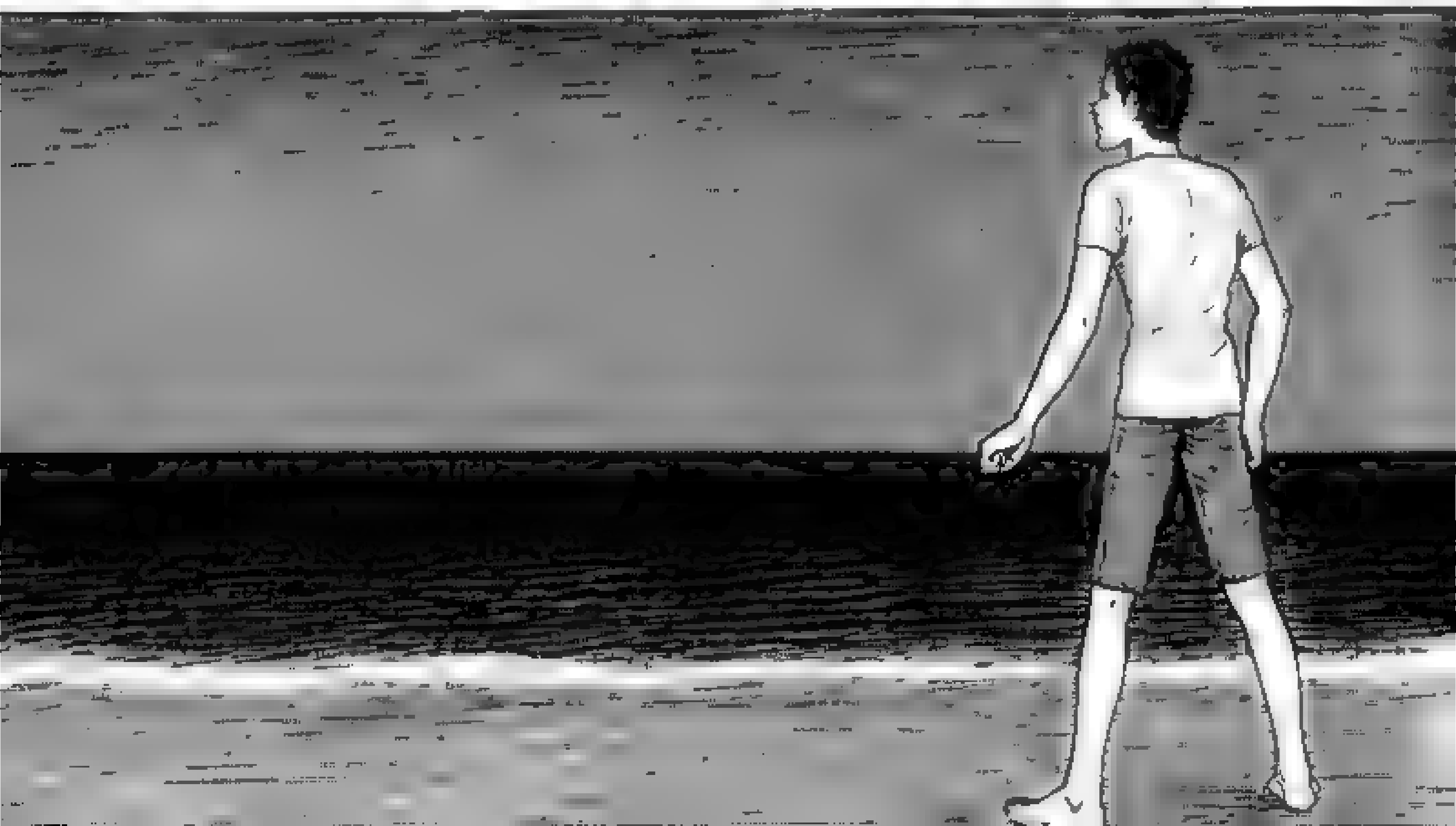
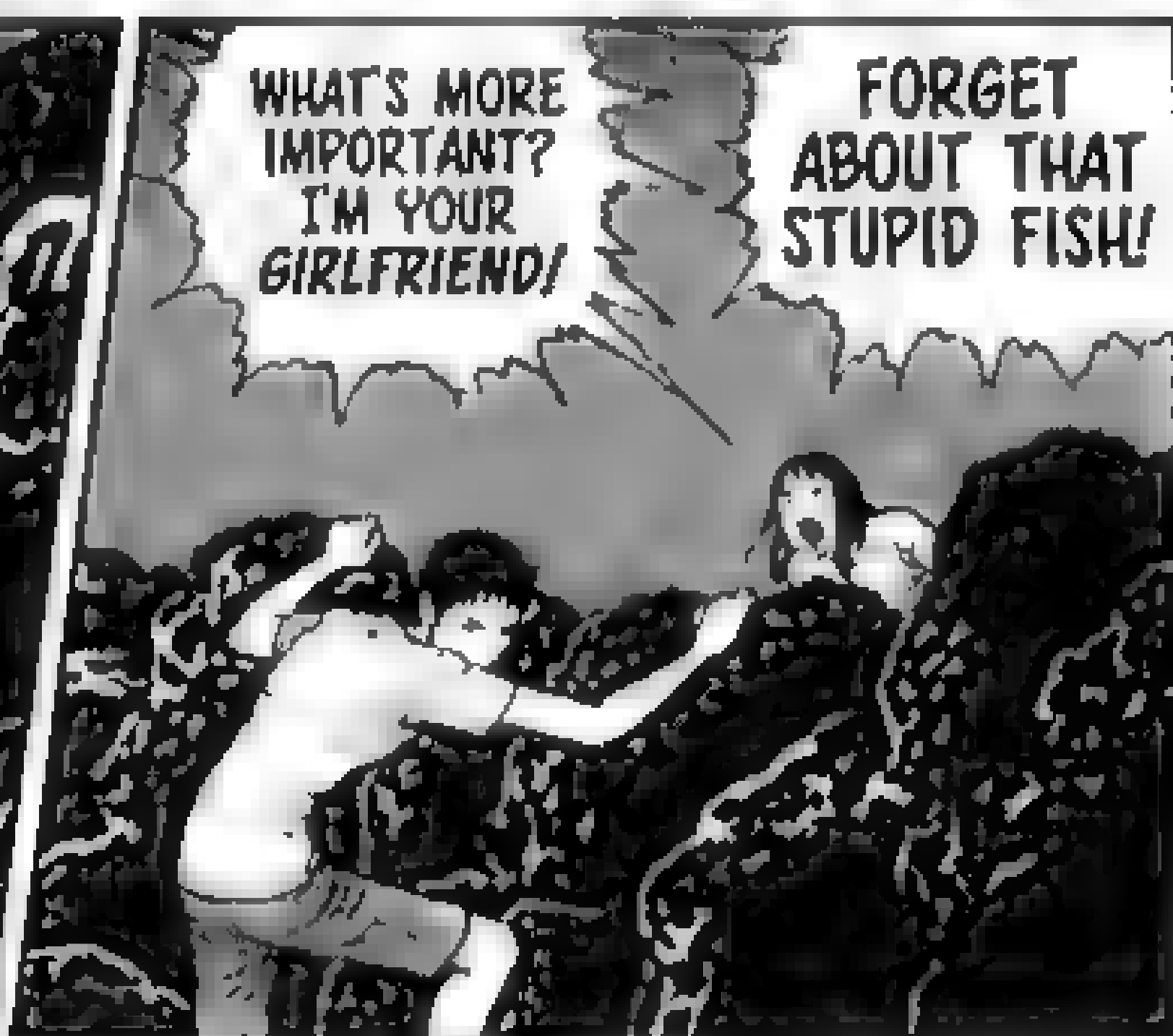


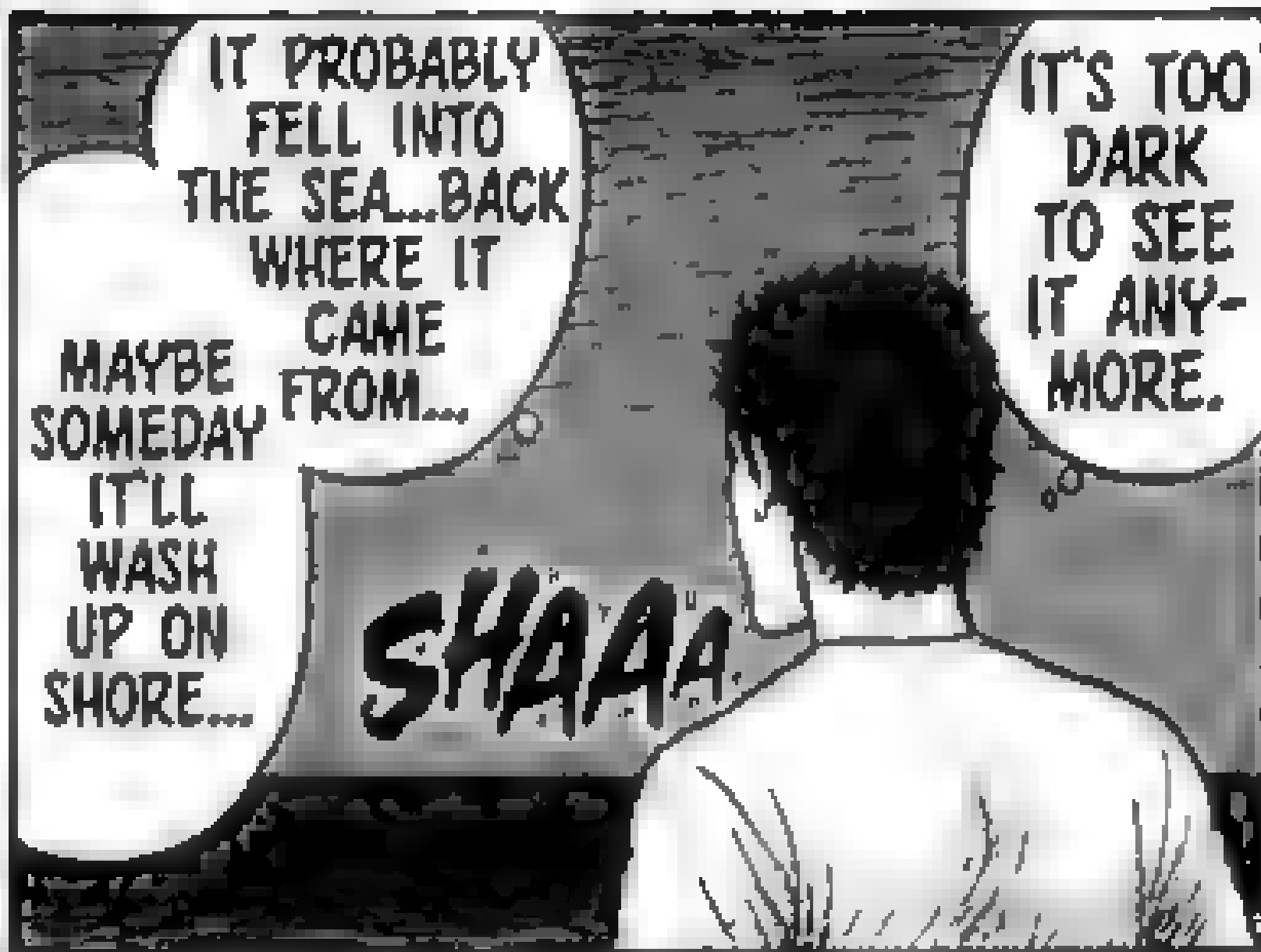
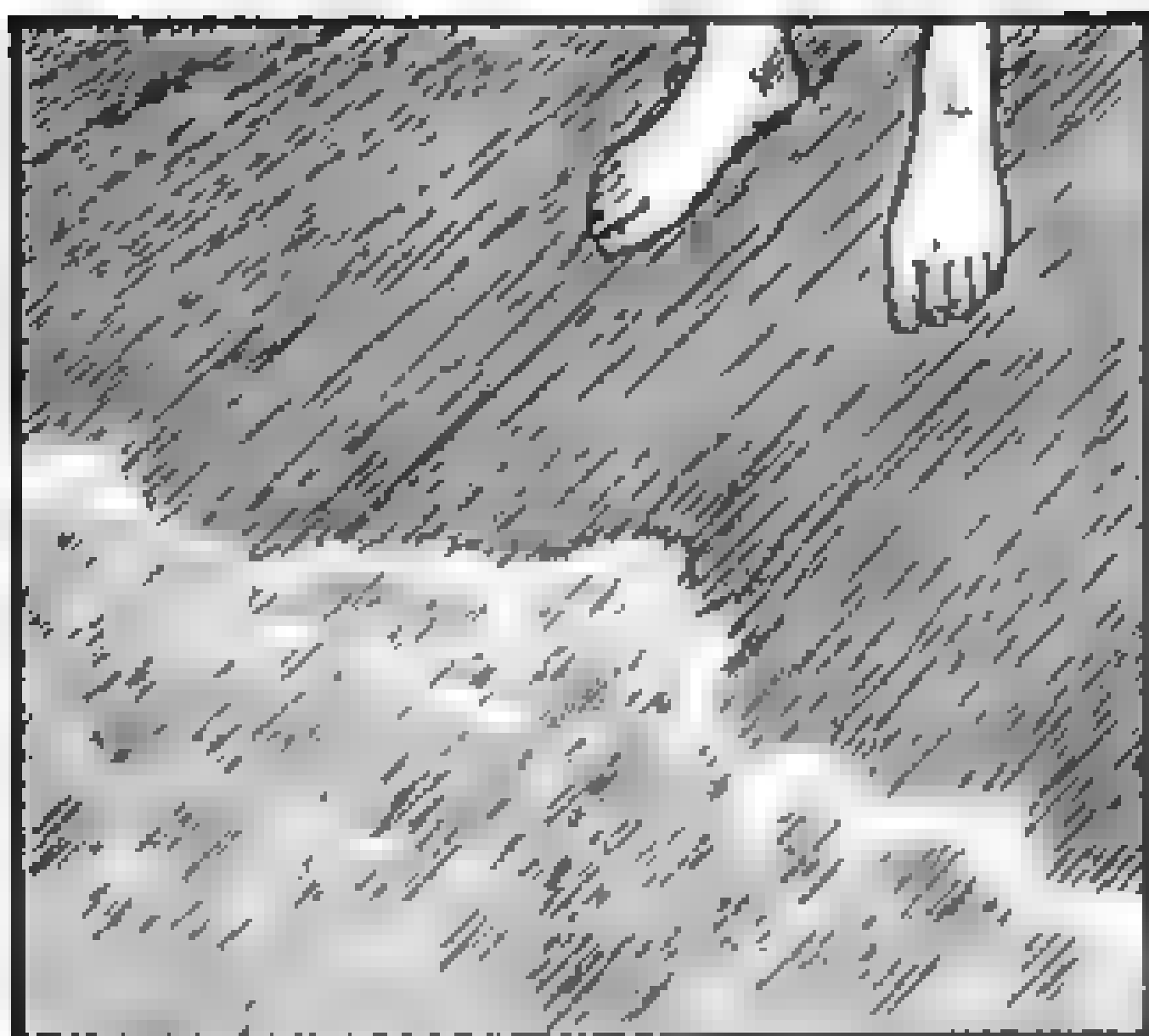


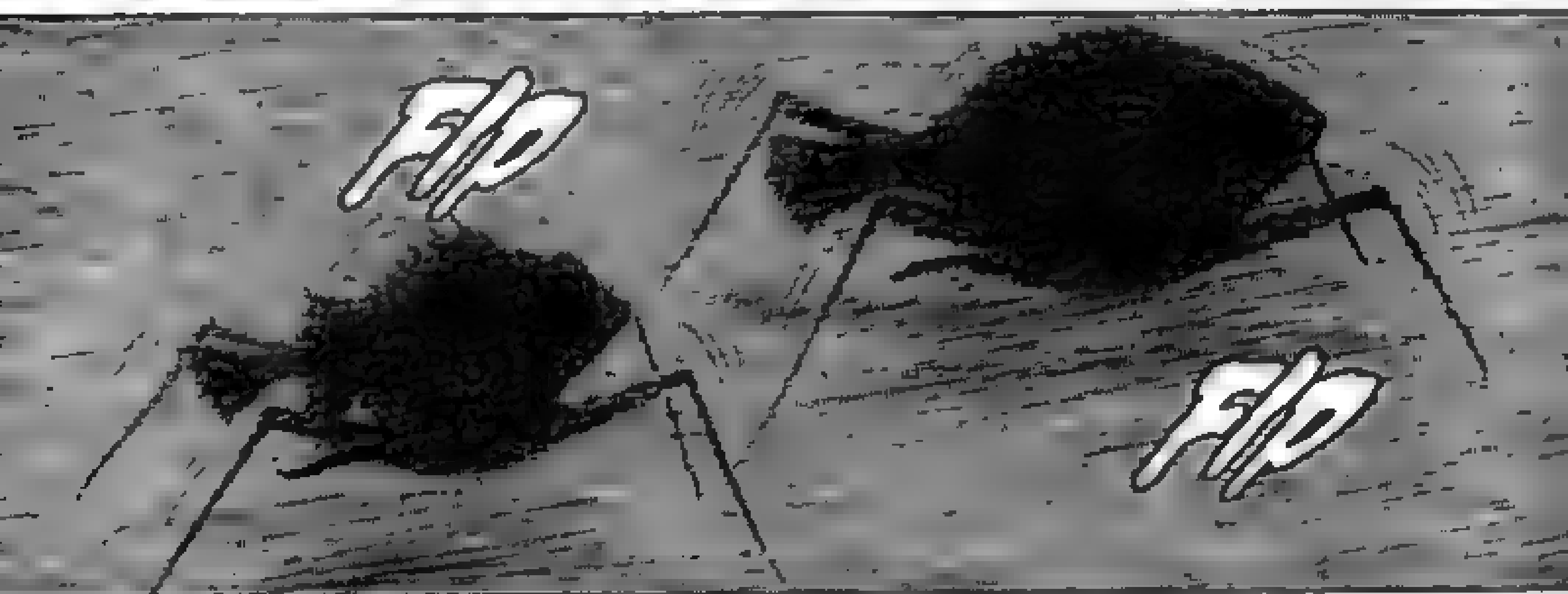


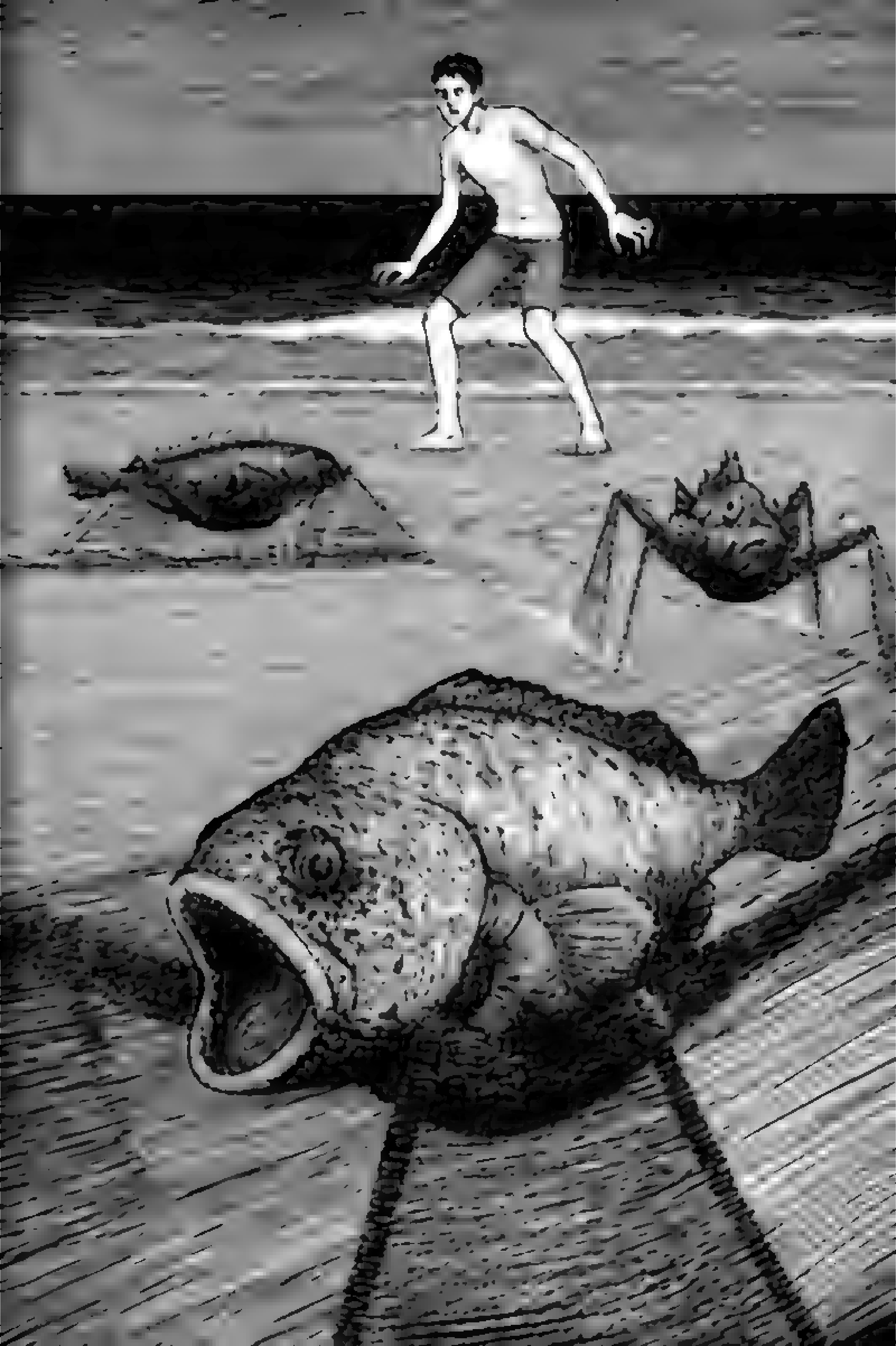










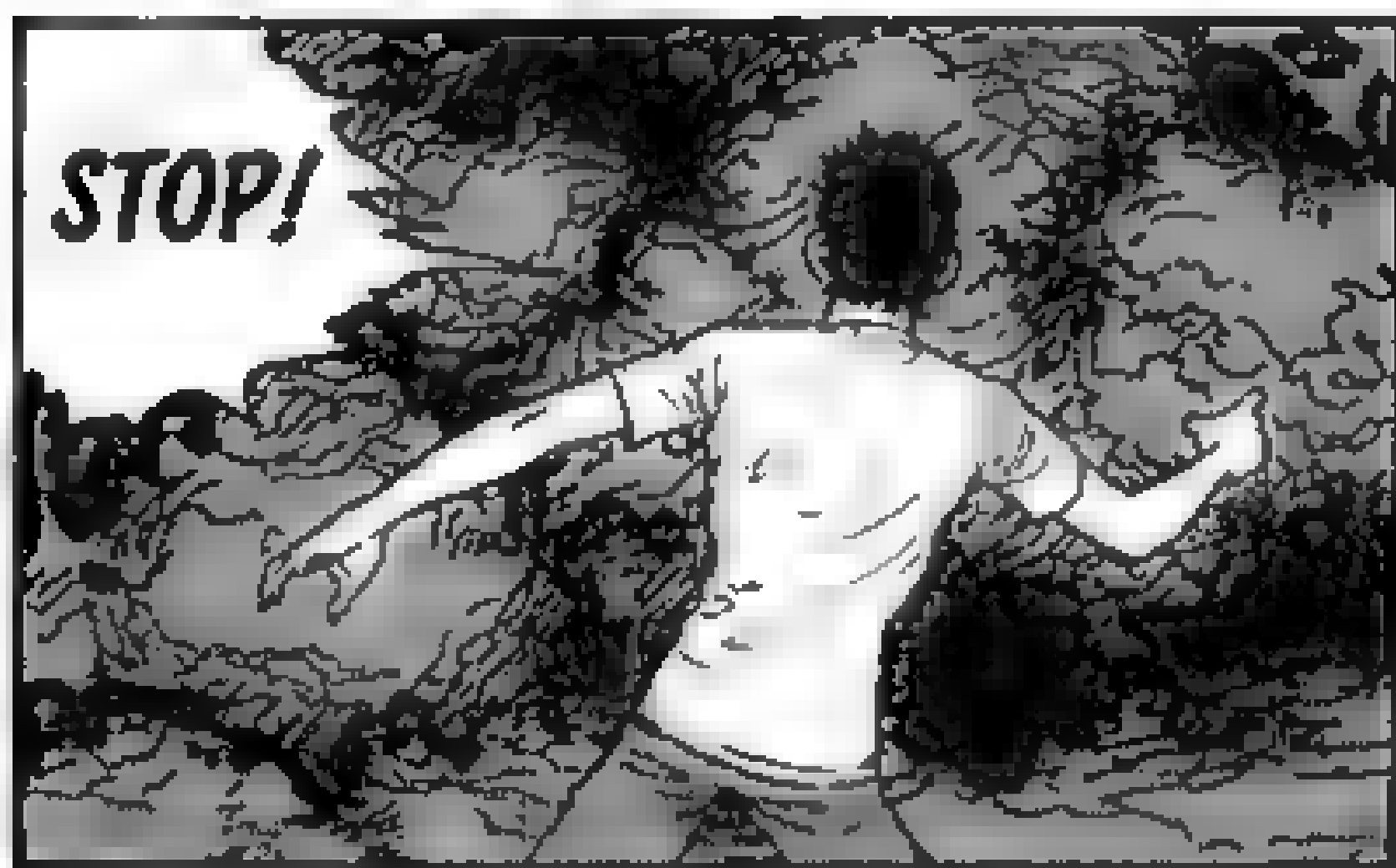
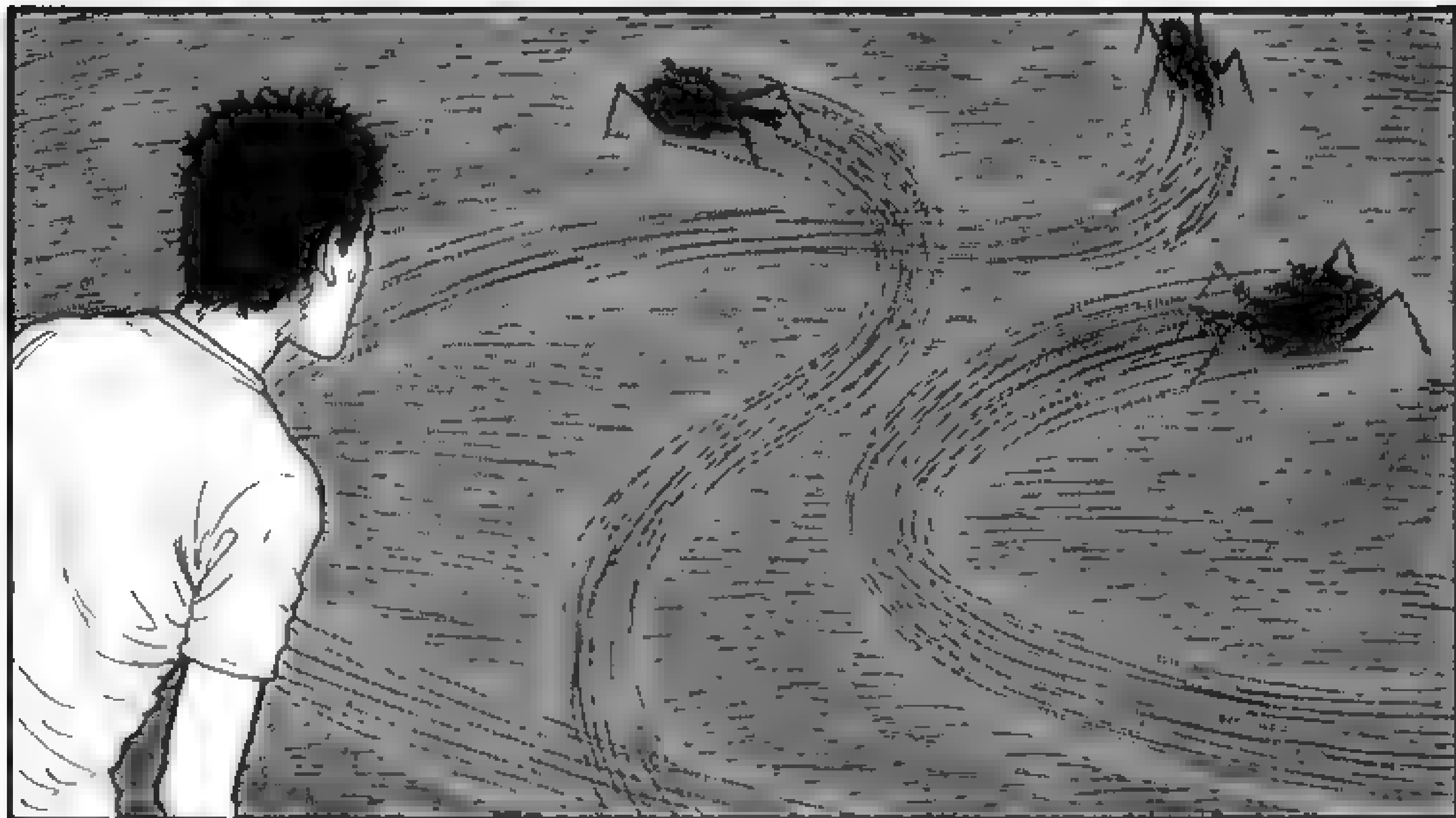


3 / Going Ashore

AGGH!

PUSH  
PUSH  
PUSH







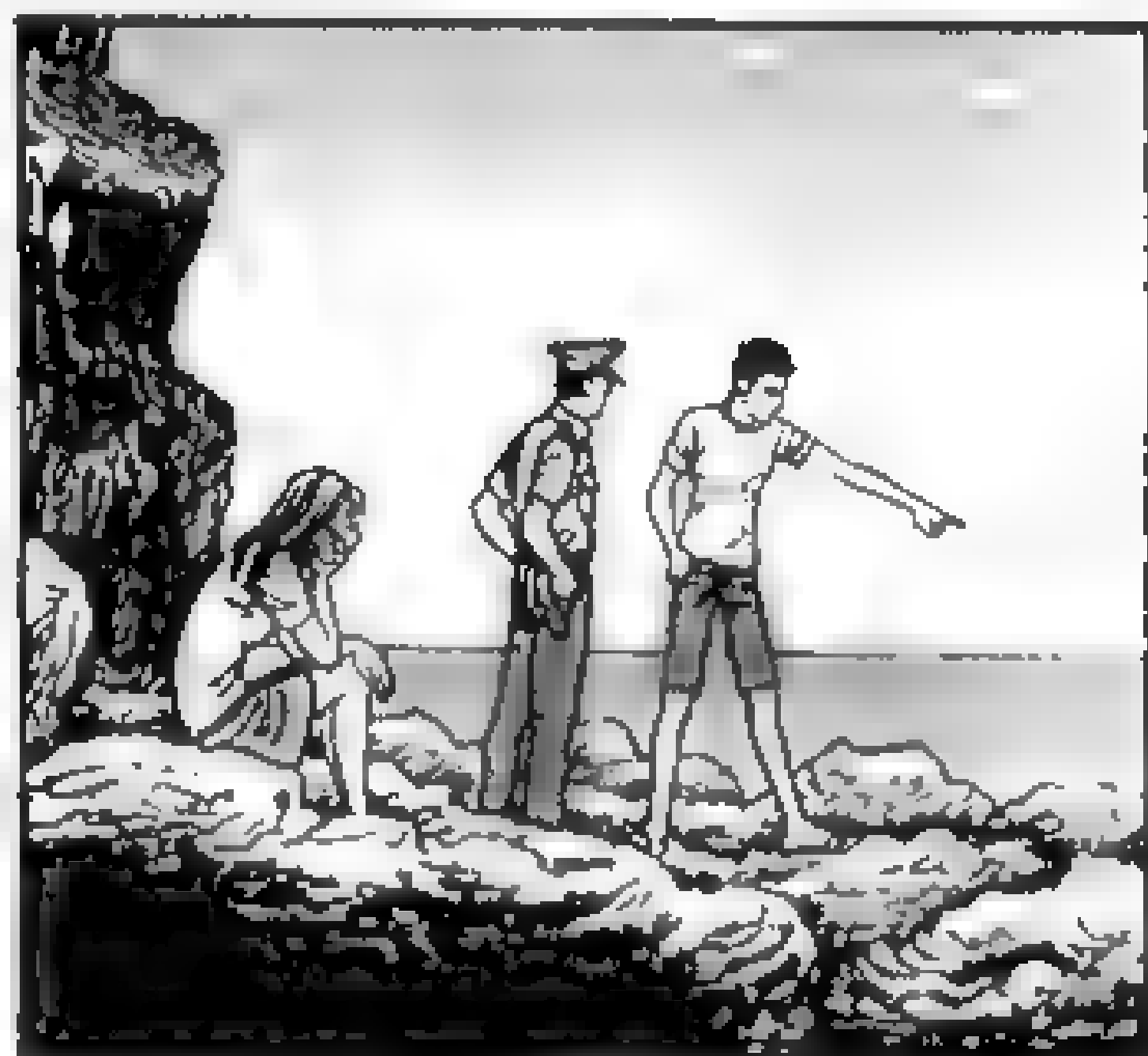


SHHAAAAAA



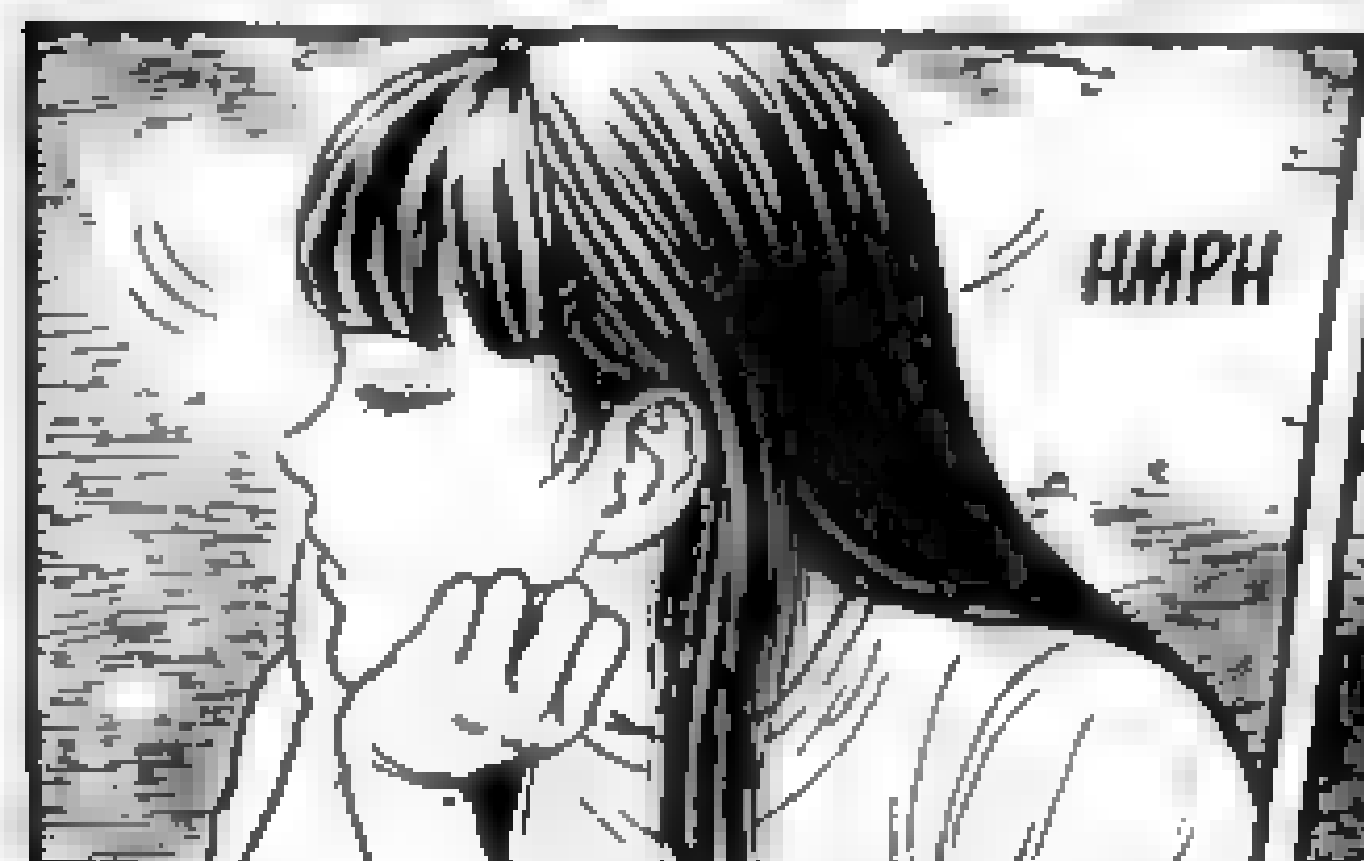
THEY WERE  
RIGHT HERE  
LAST NIGHT.

REALLY,  
OFFICER.  
I'M  
SERIOUS  
!



KAORI,  
TELL HIM  
WHAT YOU  
SAW!

IT'S  
NOT A  
PRANK.

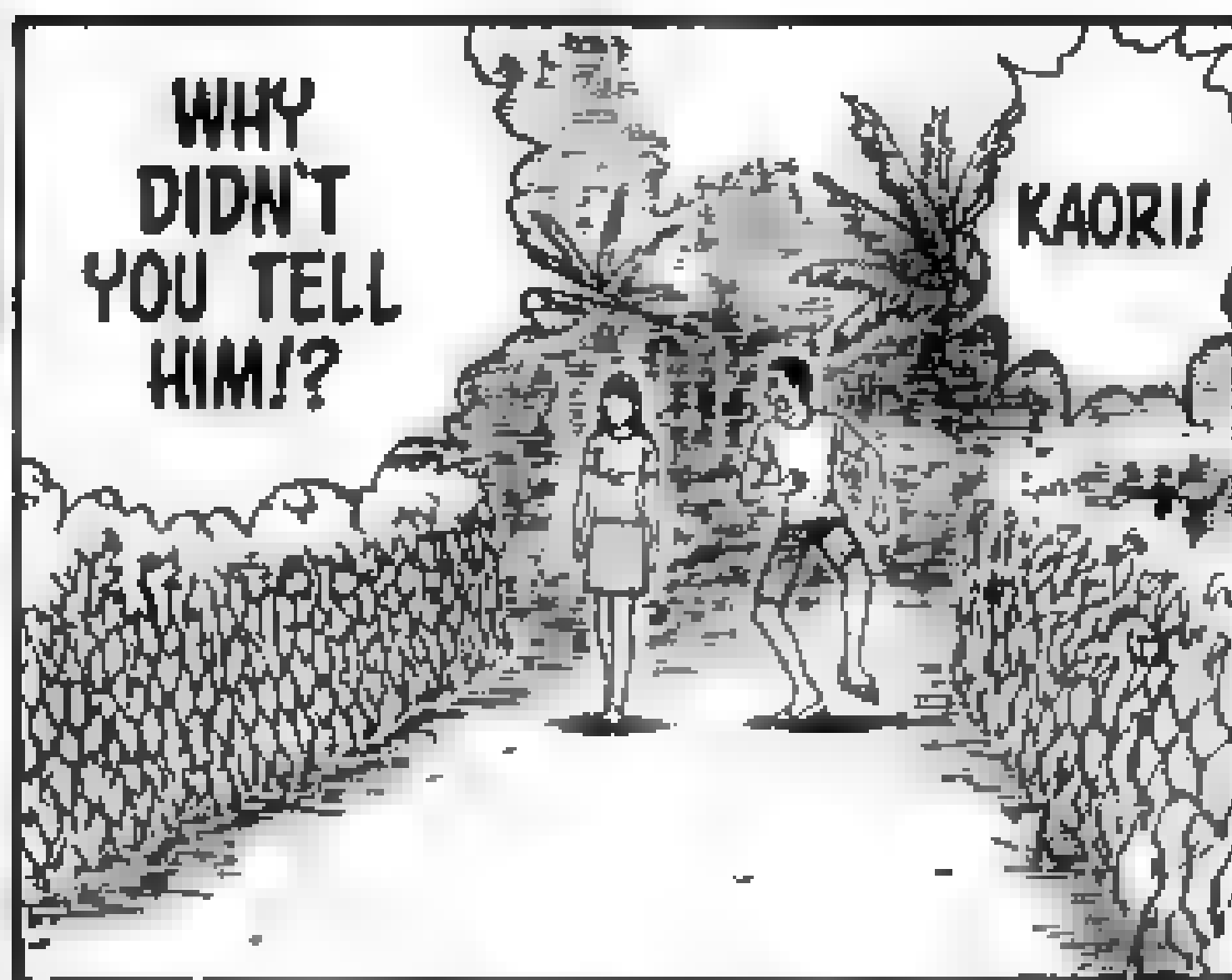


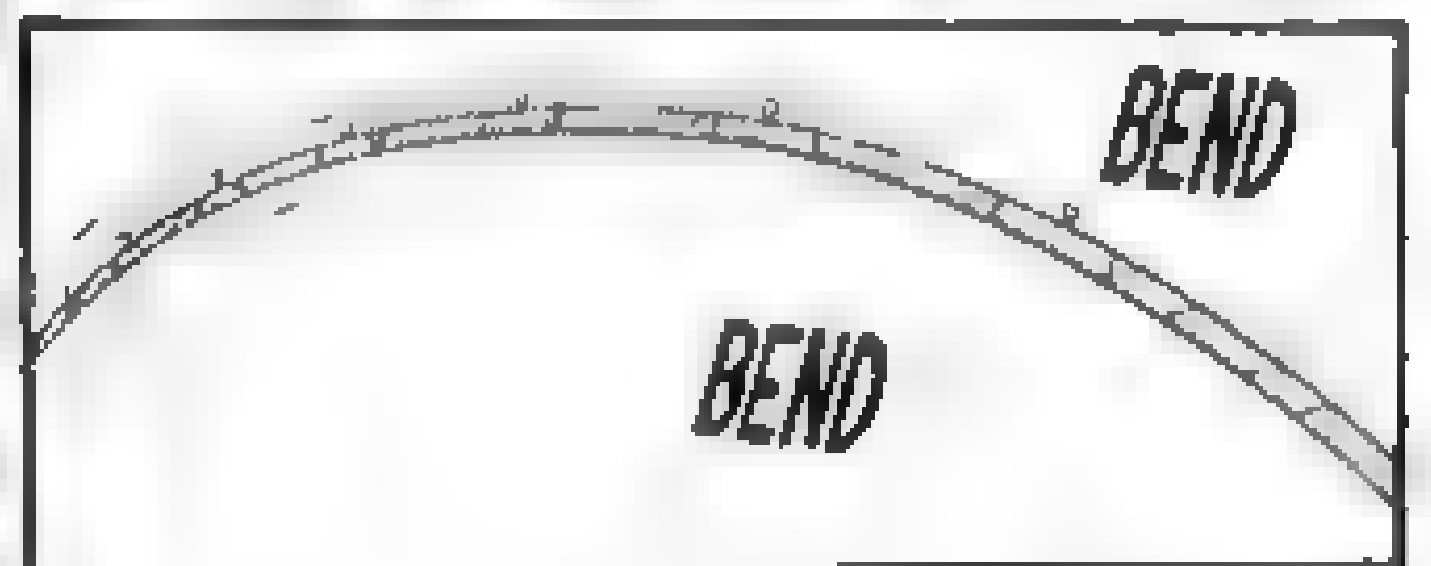
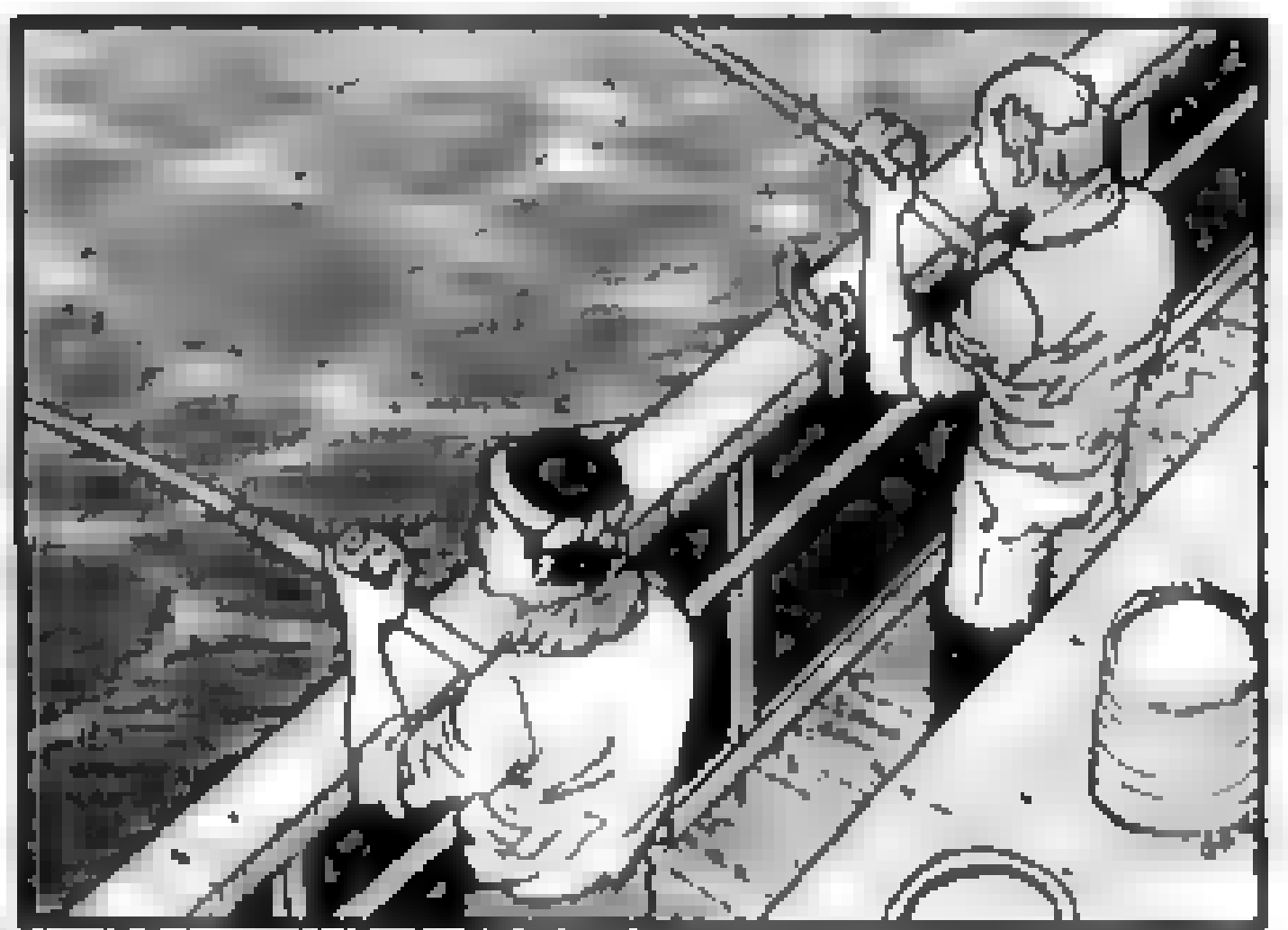
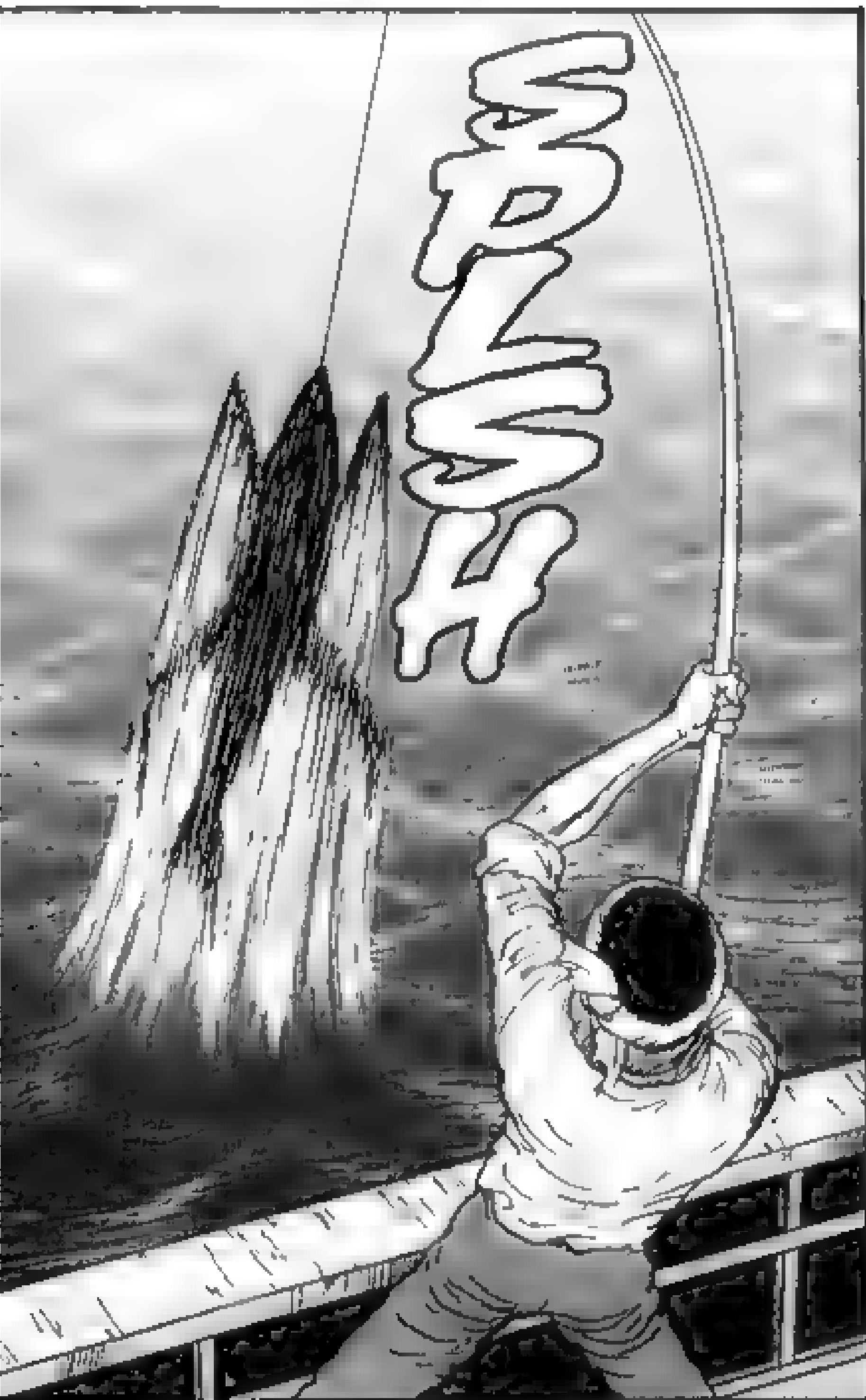
HMPH

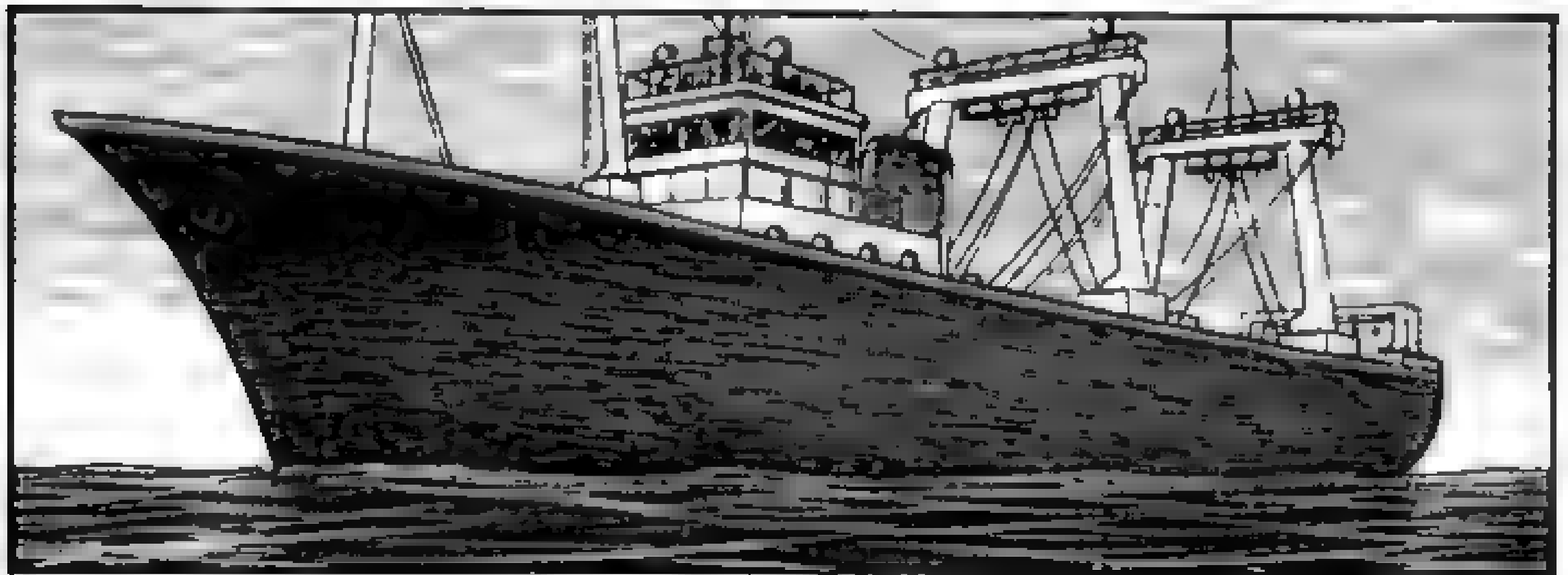
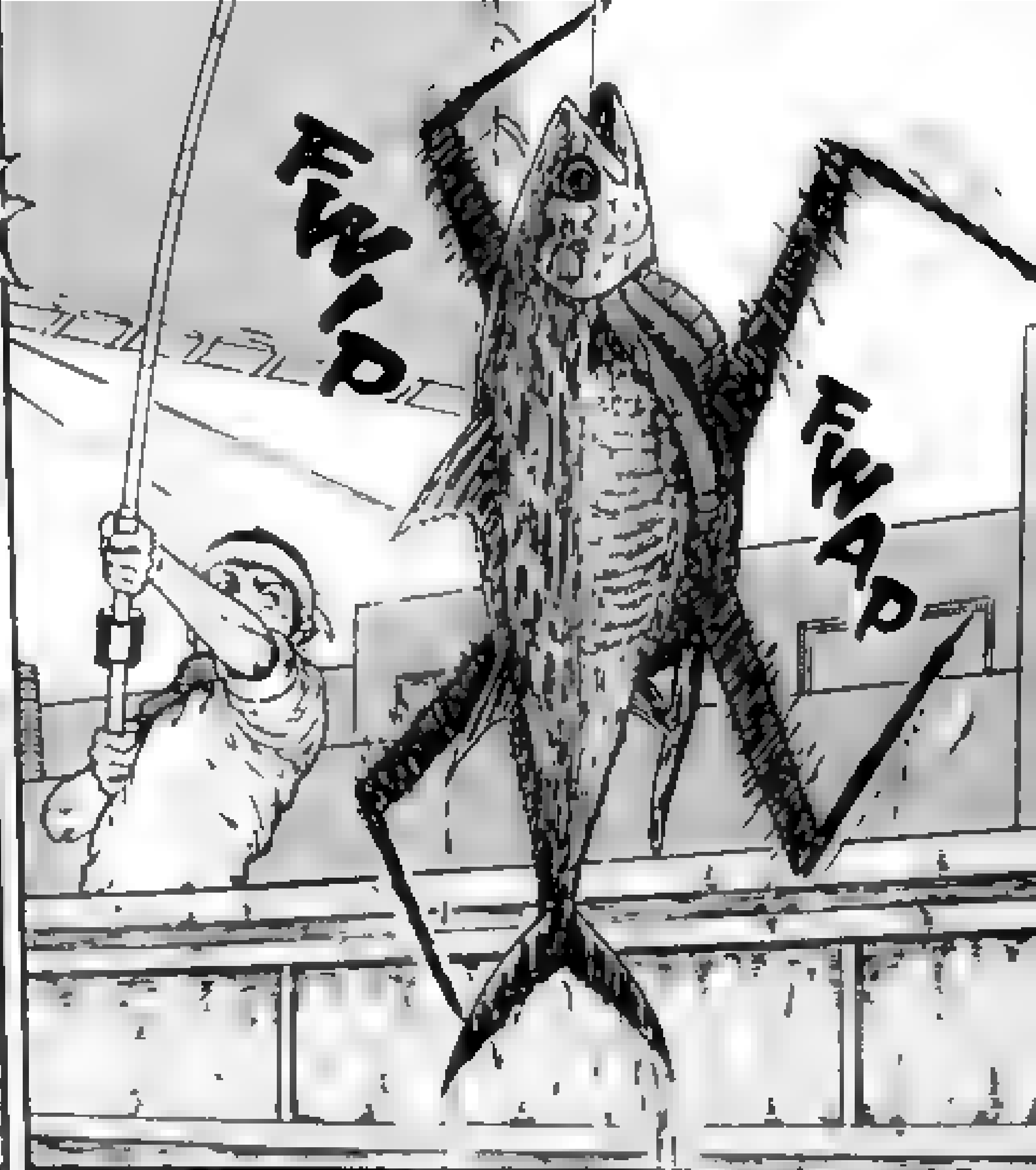
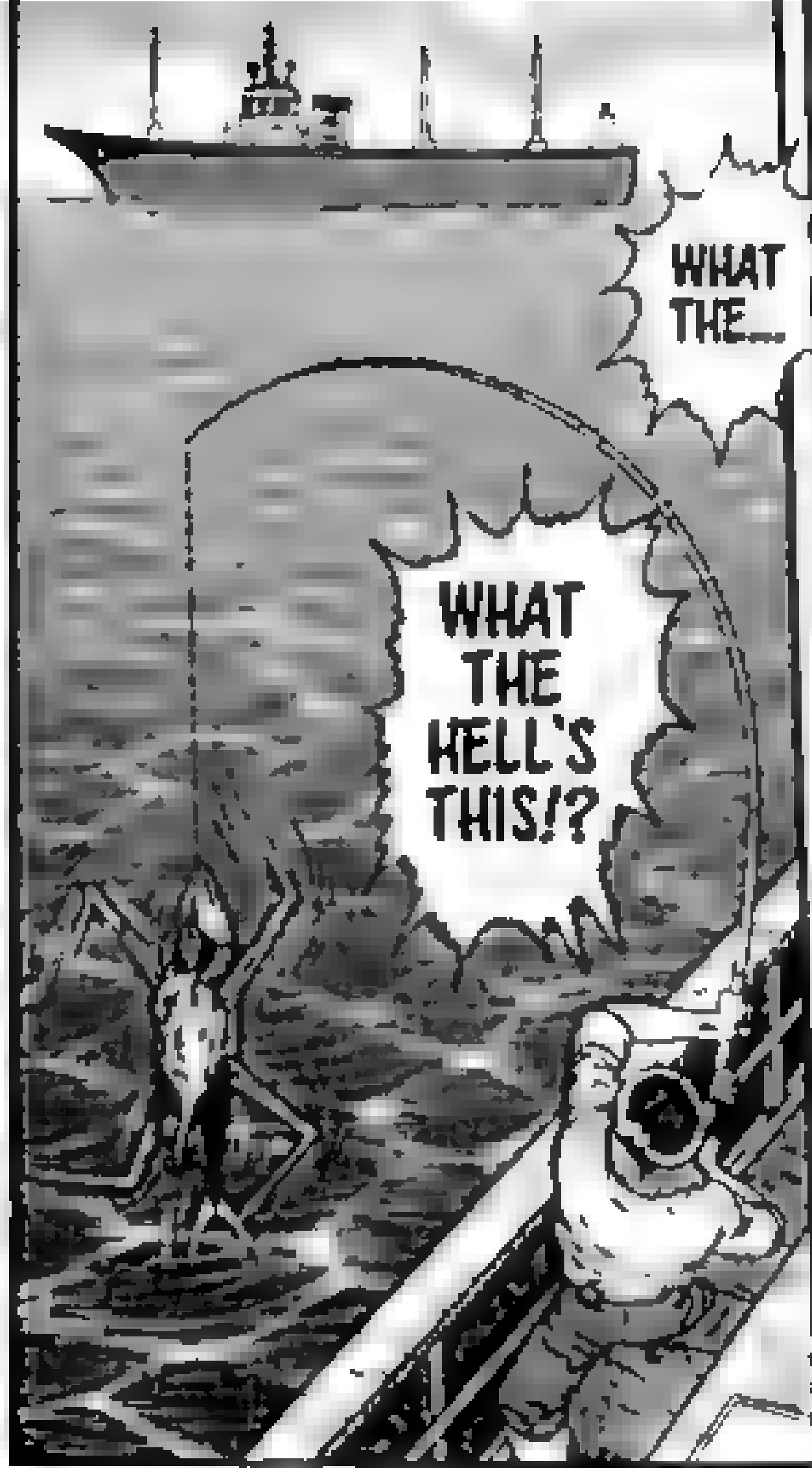


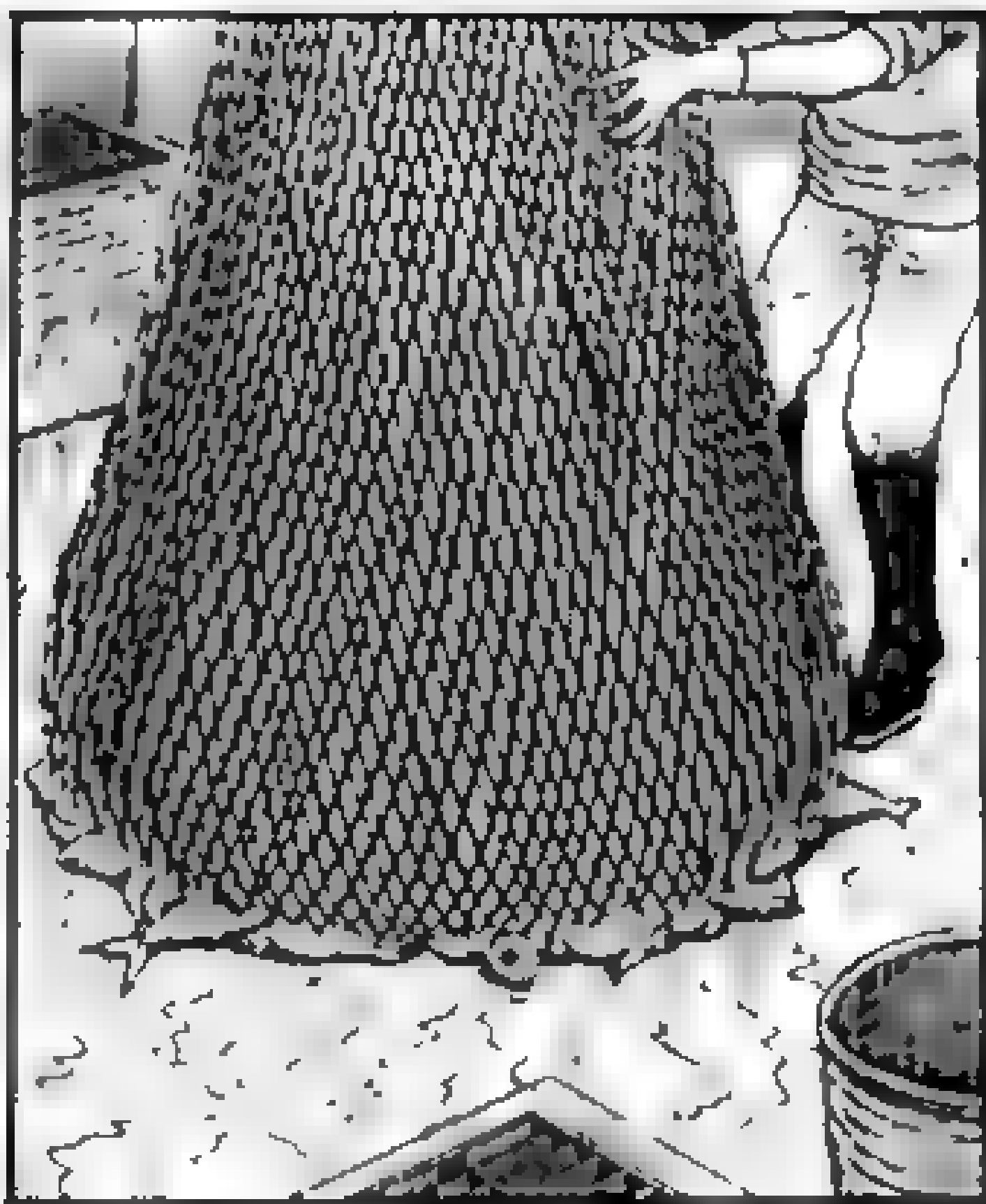
'FISH WITH  
LEGS?' I  
OUGHTTA HAUL  
YOU IN FOR  
PULLIN' PRANKS  
LIKE THIS!

YOU  
PROBABLY  
JUST SAW  
SOME CATS  
OR DOGS.















**STOP  
THEM!**



**WHUD**

**WHAT  
THE HELL  
ARE  
THEY!?**



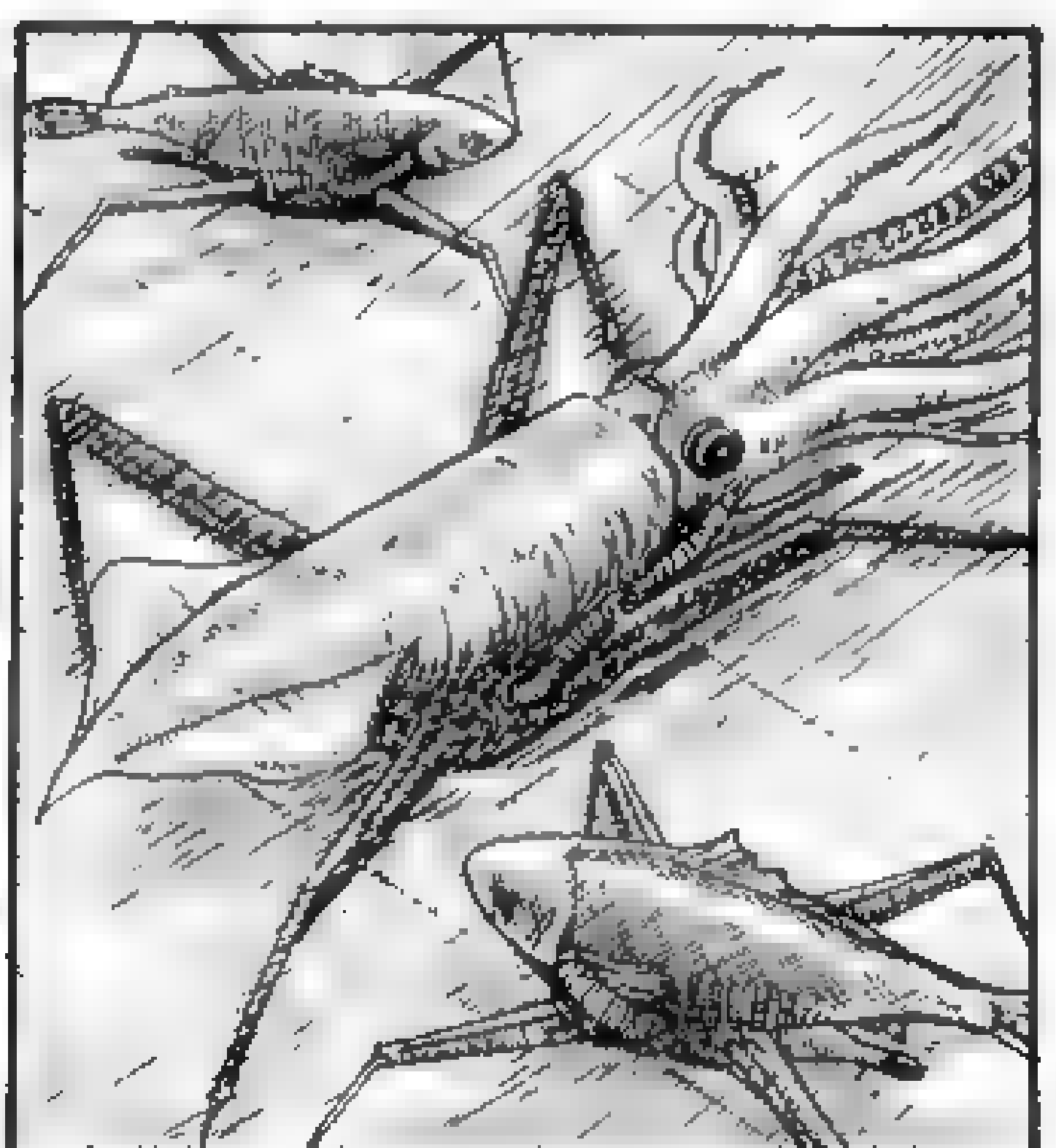
**AGGH!  
OW OW  
OW!**

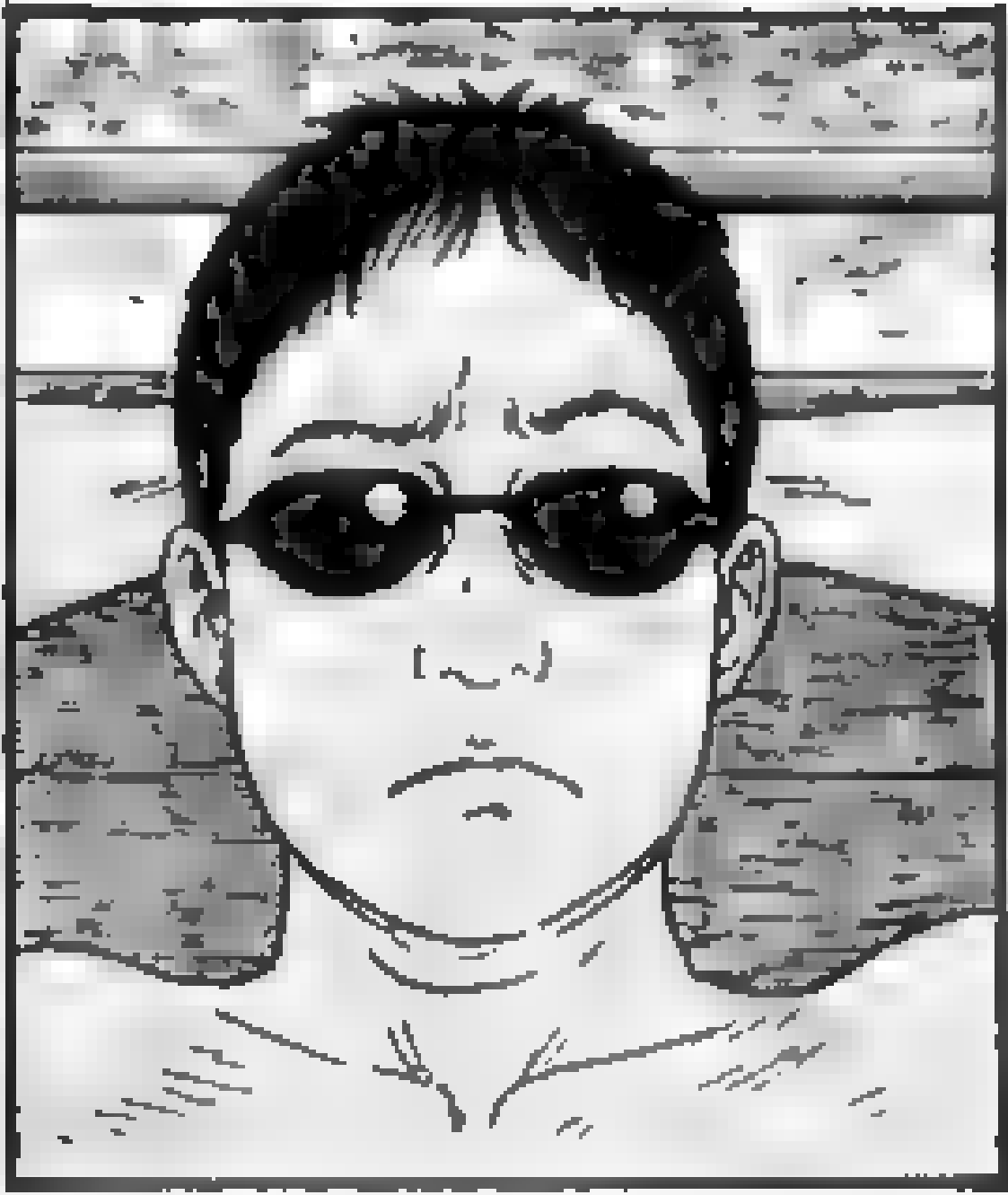
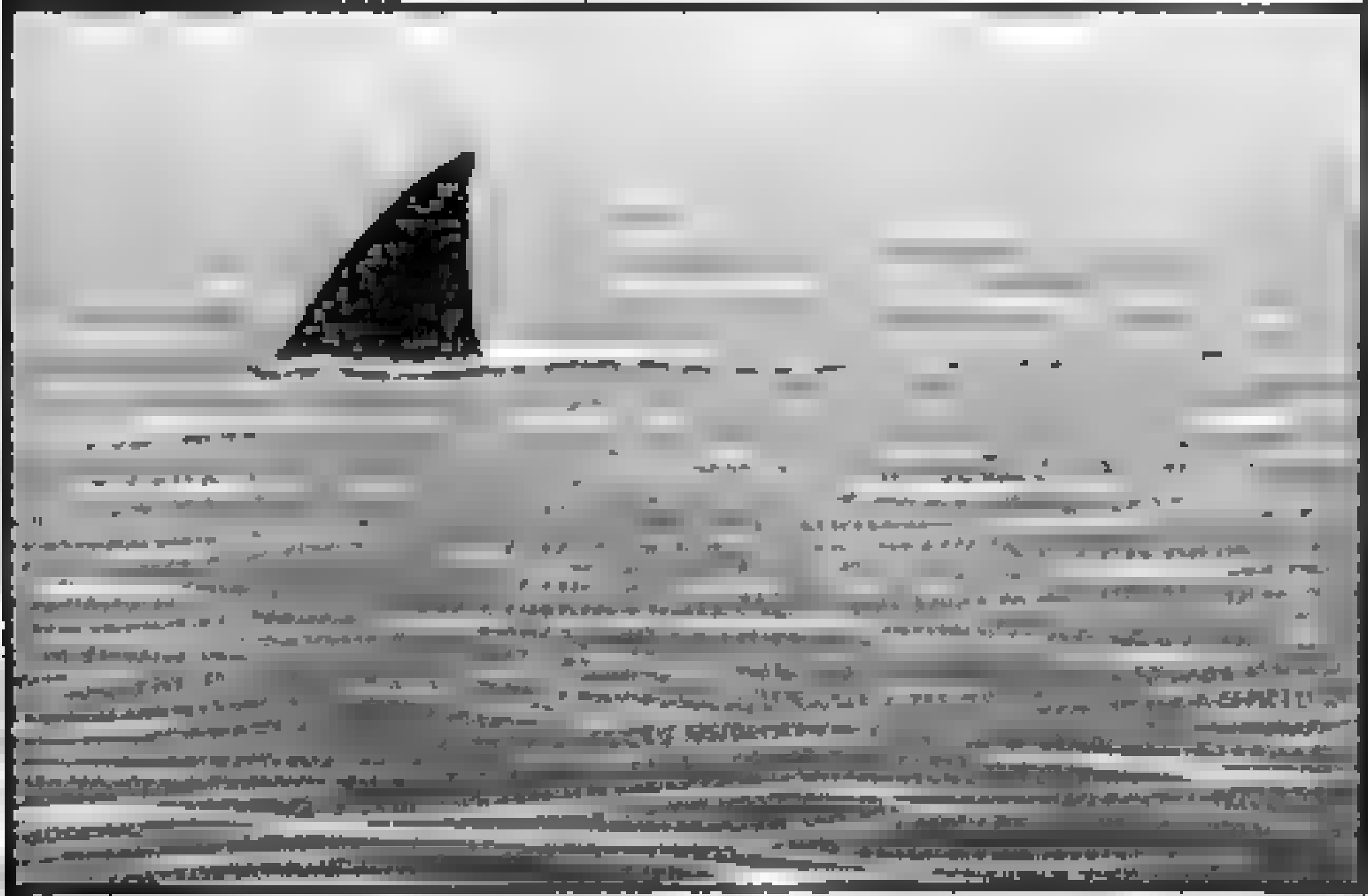
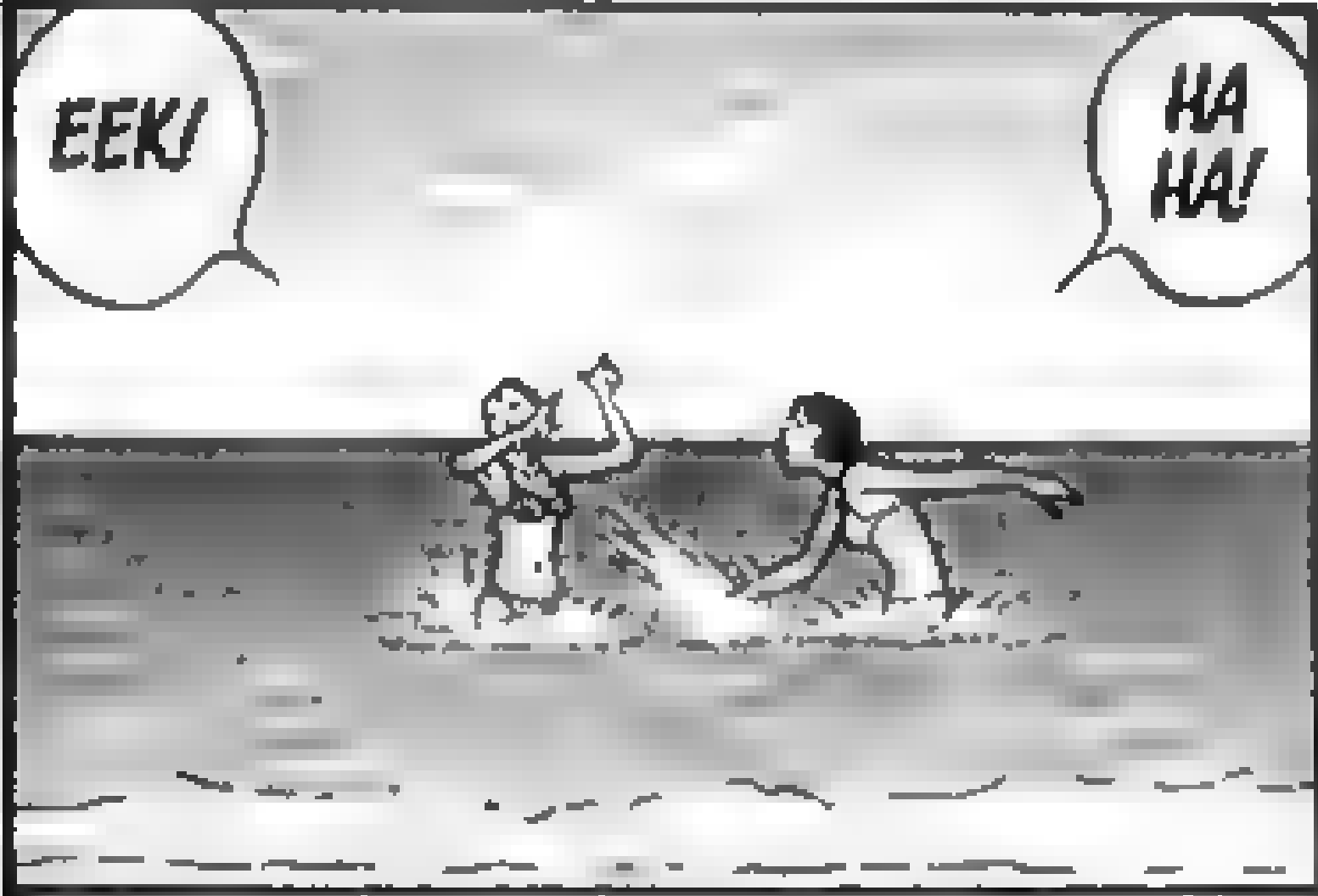
**SKITTA SKITTA  
SKITTA SKITTA**



**AIEE!**

**ARGH  
!**





**GET  
OUT OF  
THE  
WATER!**



**HEY,  
THERE'S  
A  
SHARK!**



**SHARK  
!!**



**WHA  
--!?**

**SPLASH SPLASH EEEYAGH!**



**WHAT  
!?**



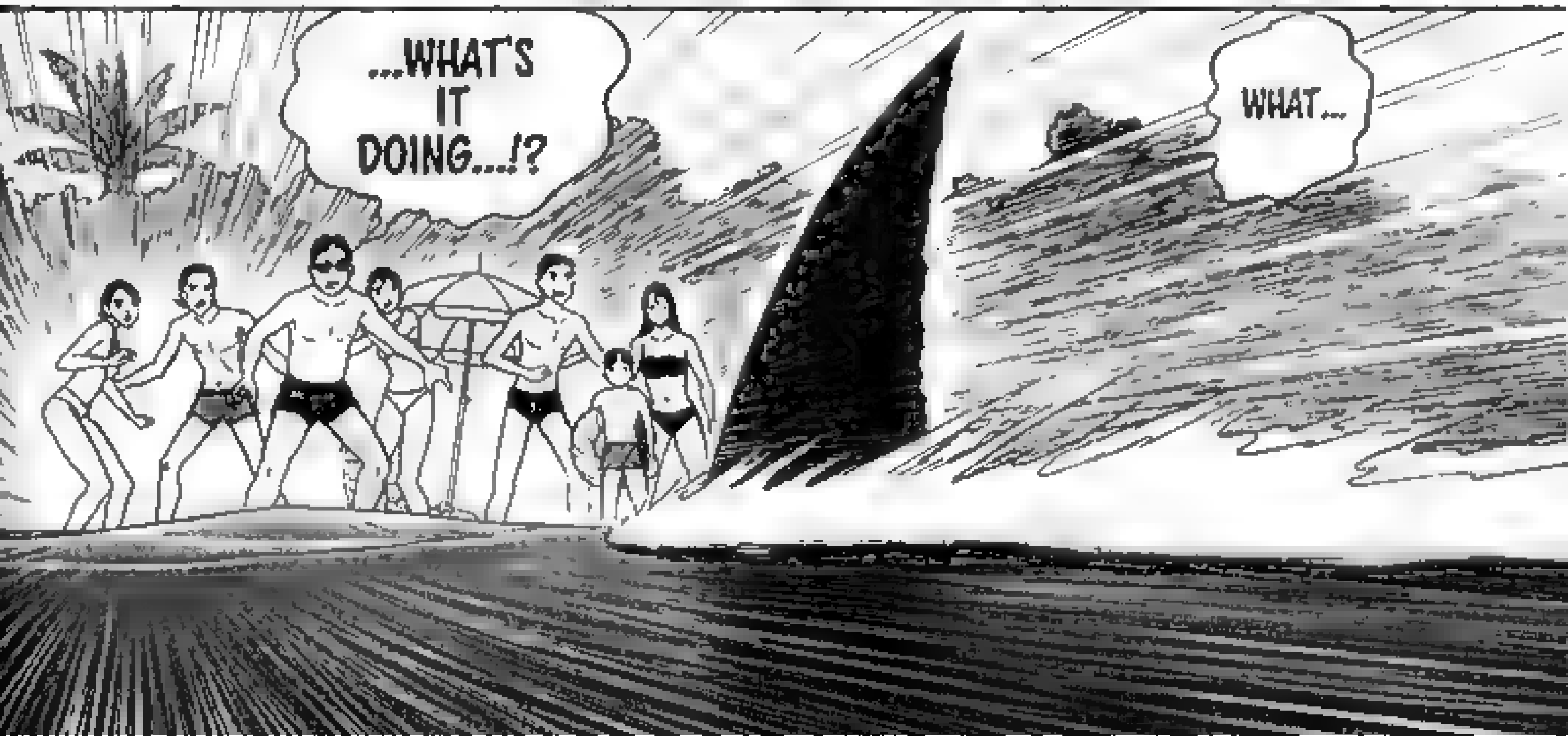
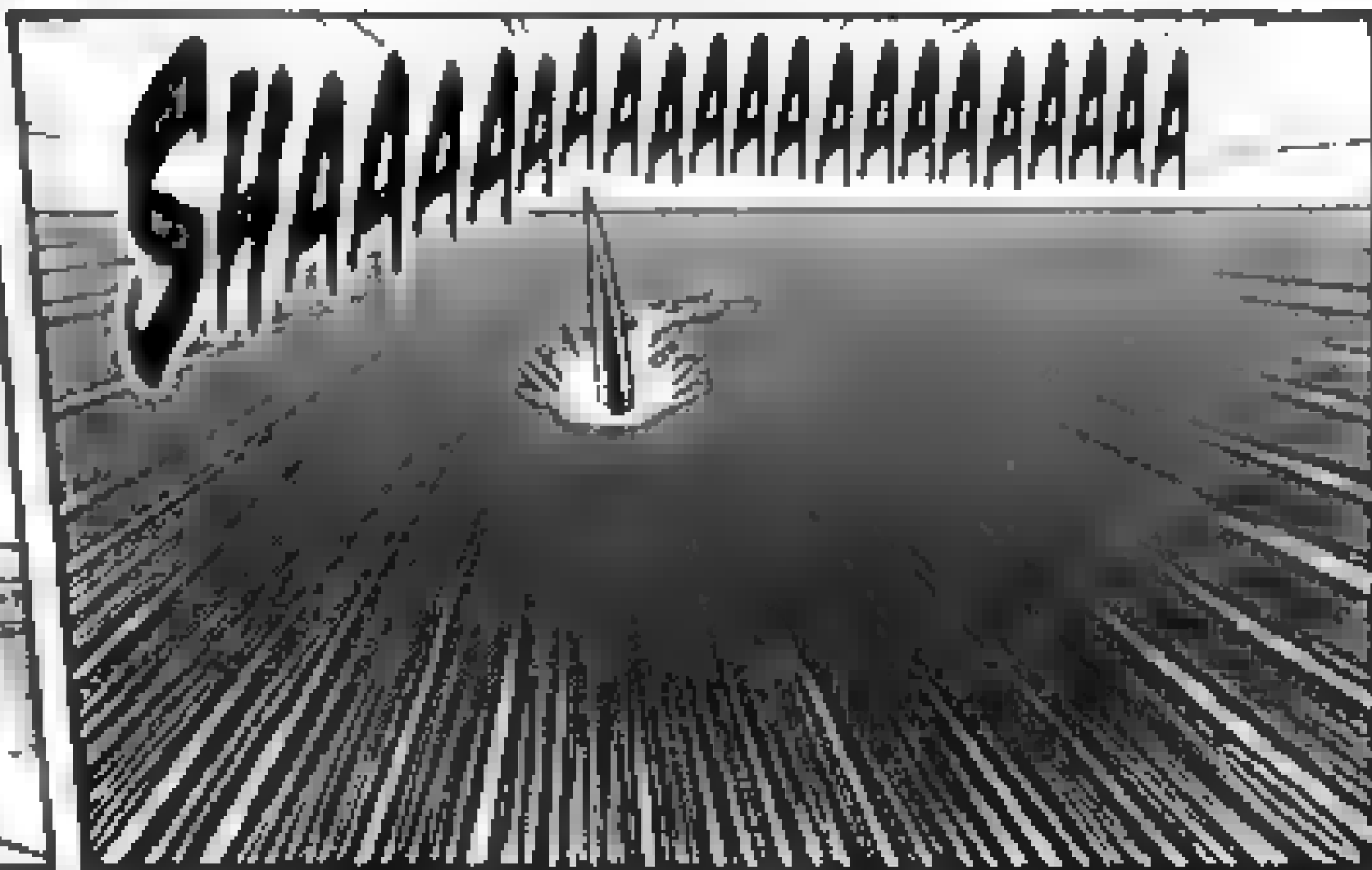
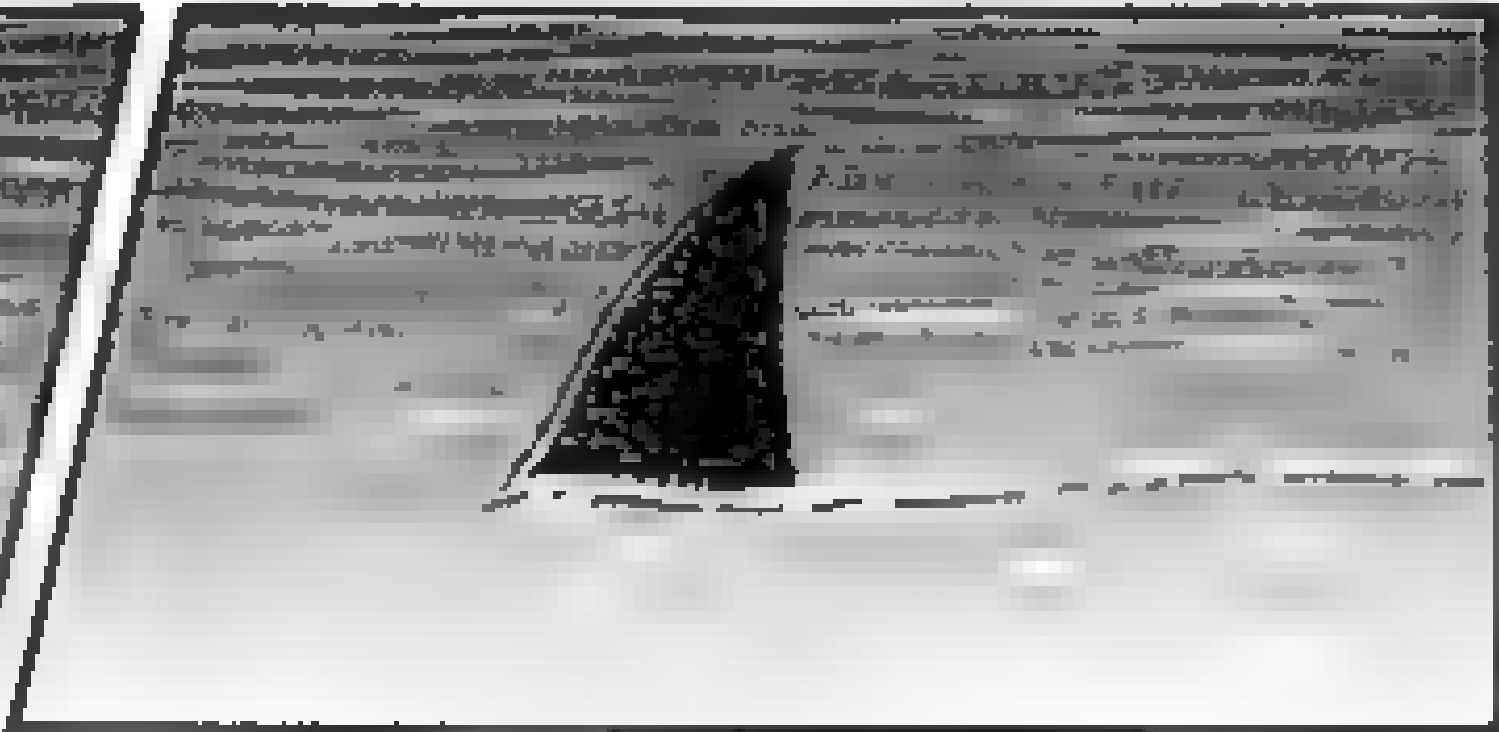
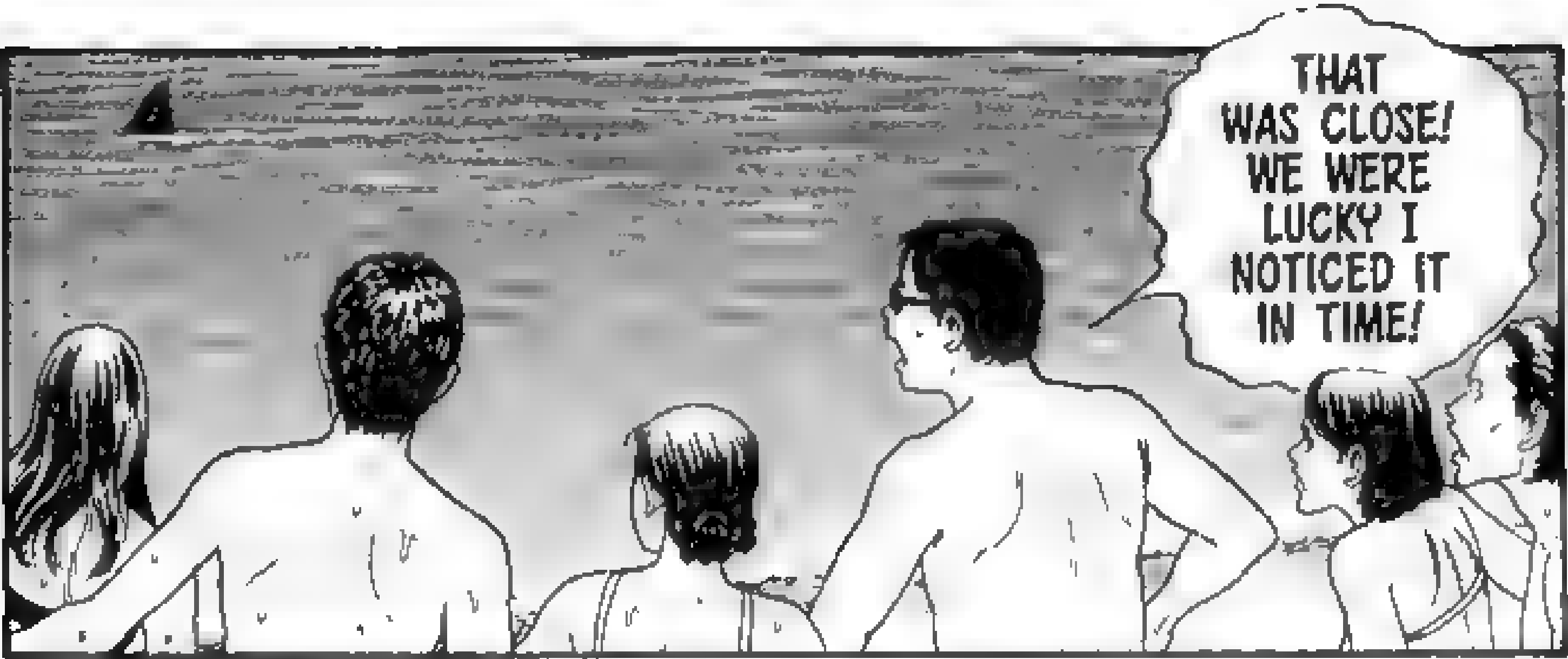
**IS  
EVERYONE  
OUT!?**

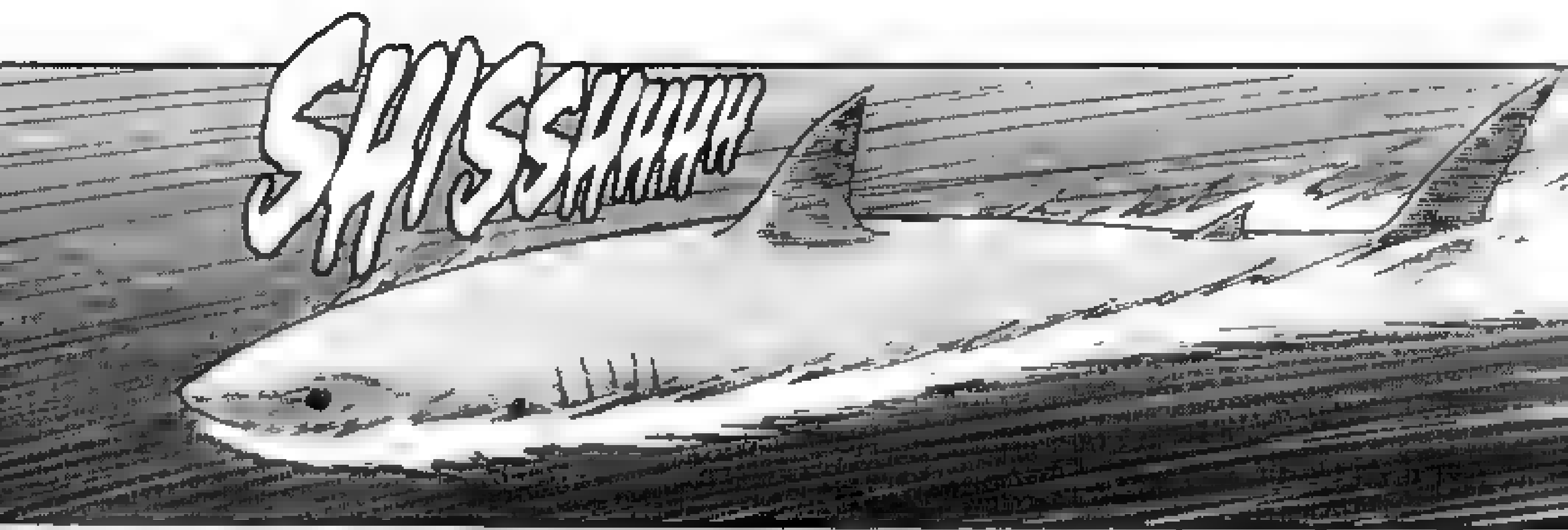


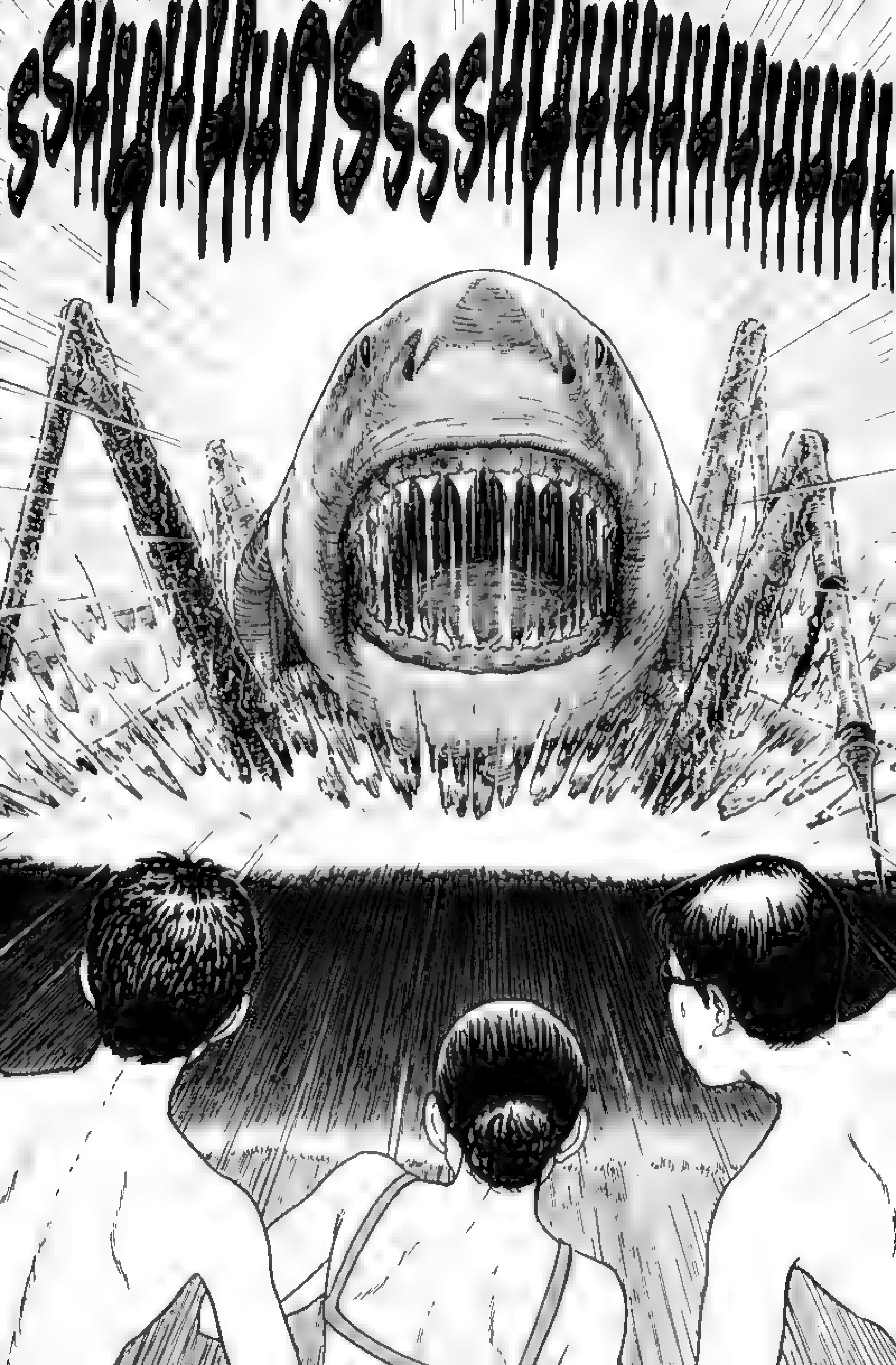
**EEEEYAGH!**



**HURRY!  
GET ONTO  
SHORE!**

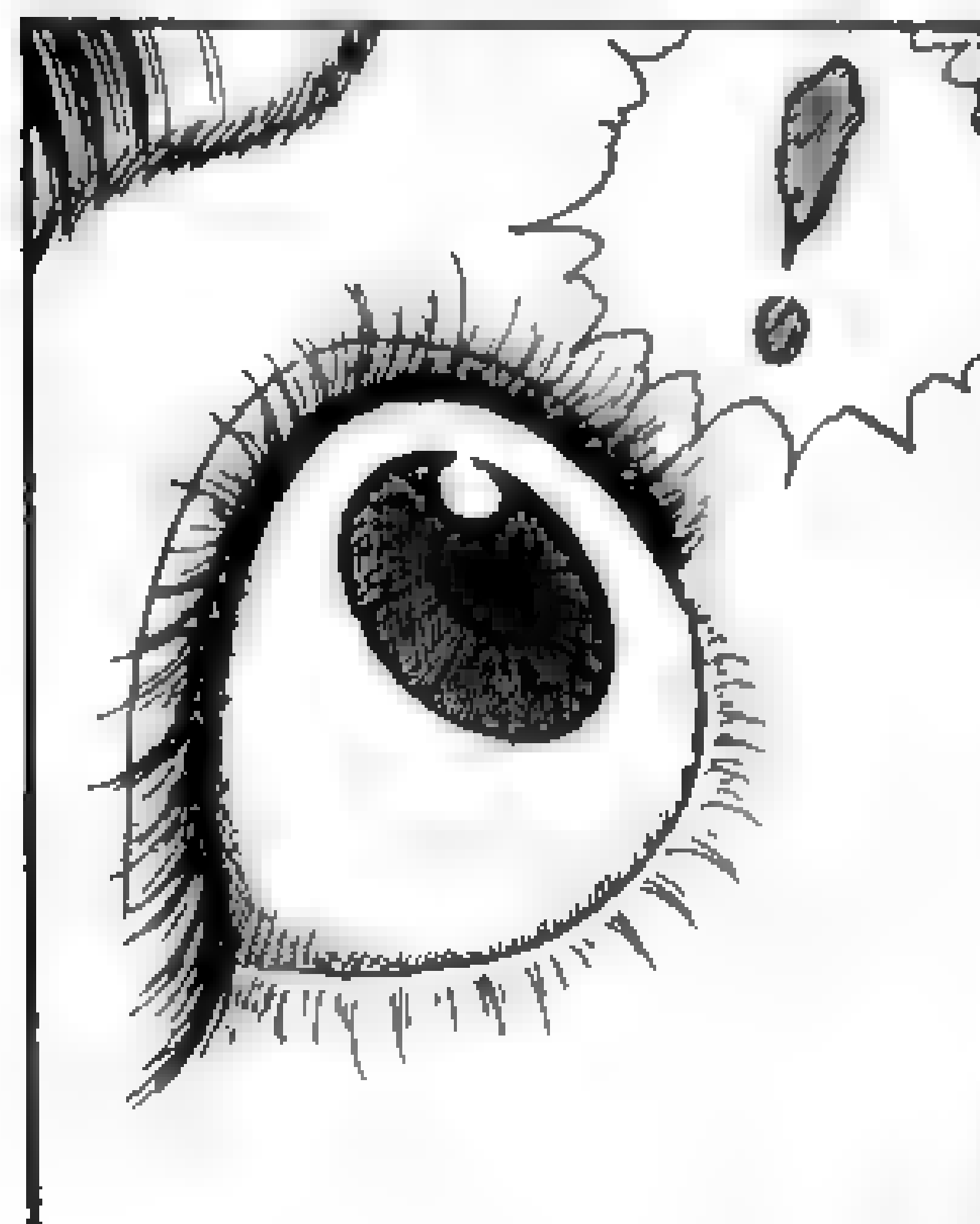


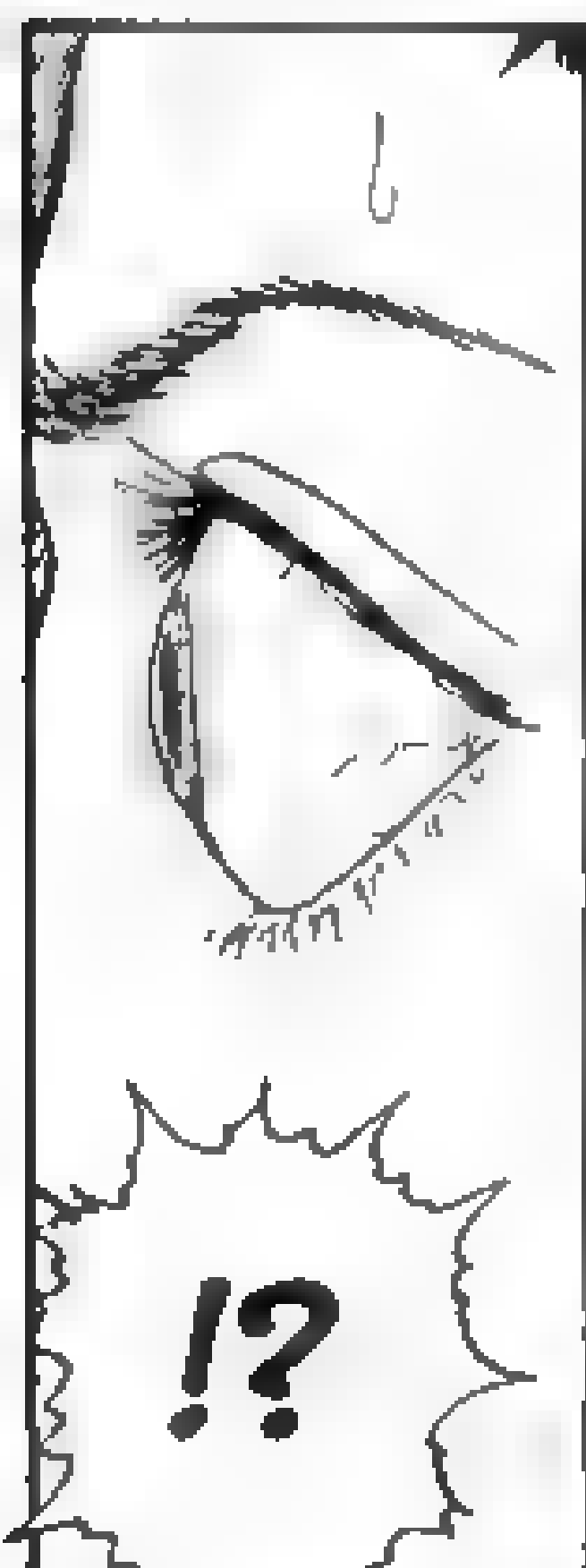


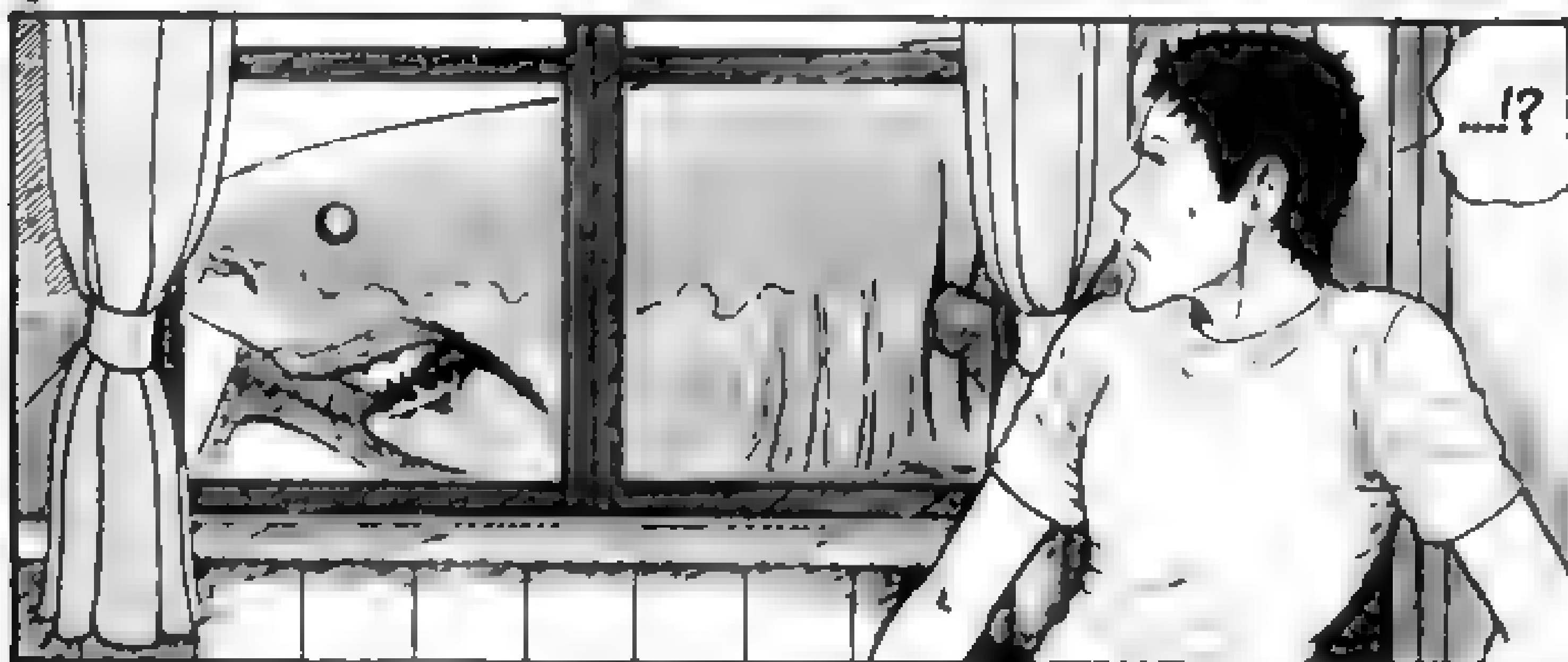








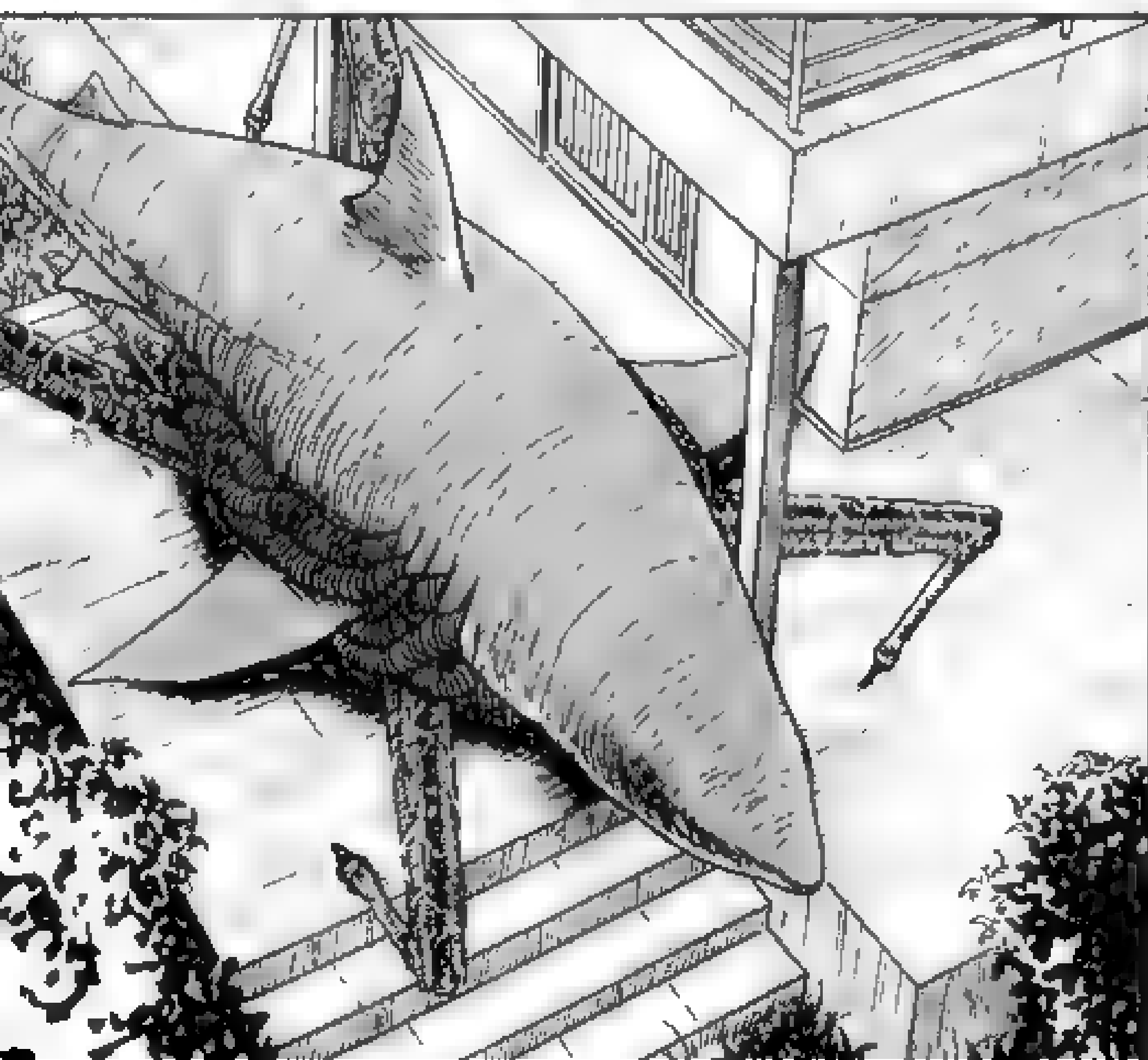
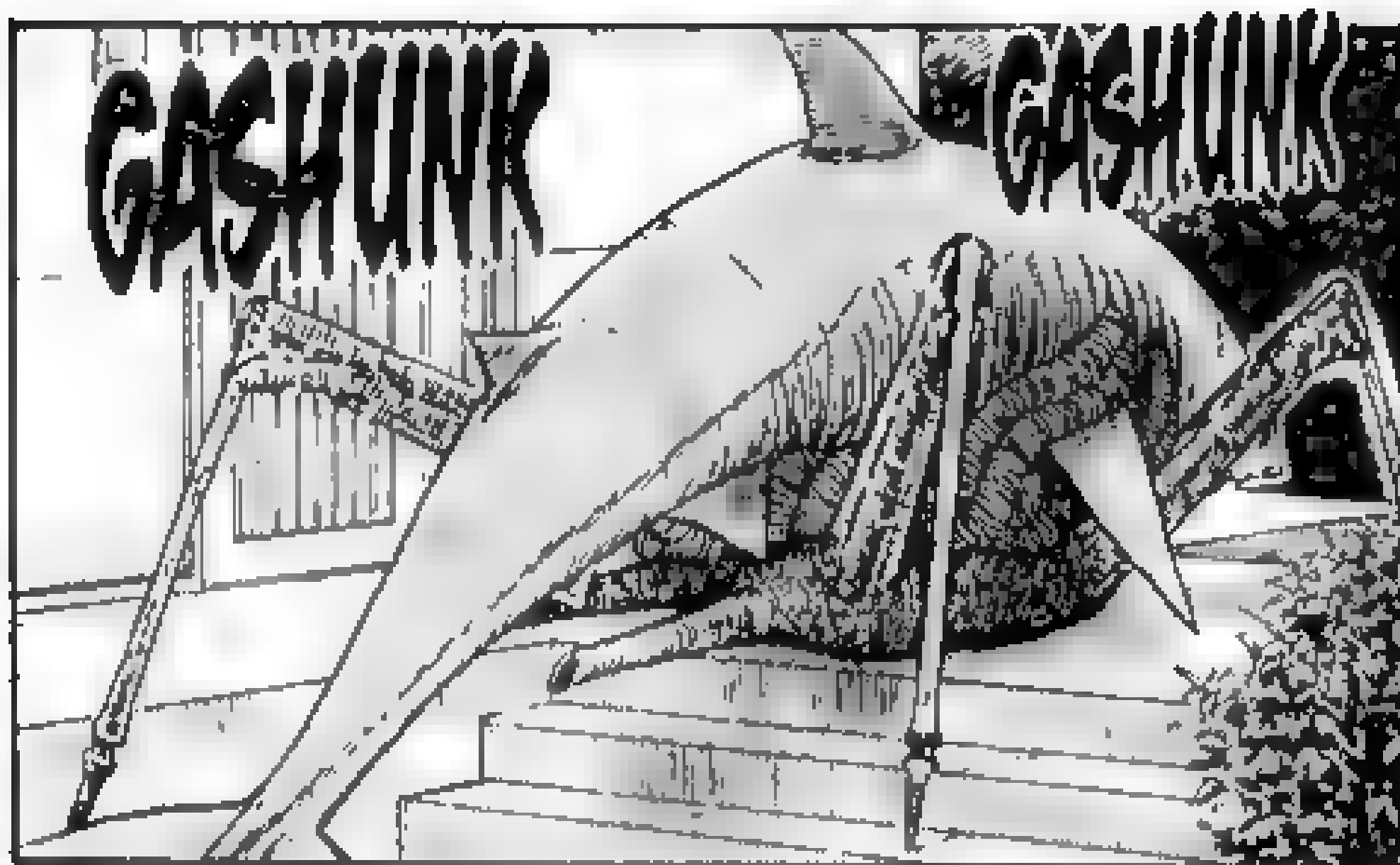




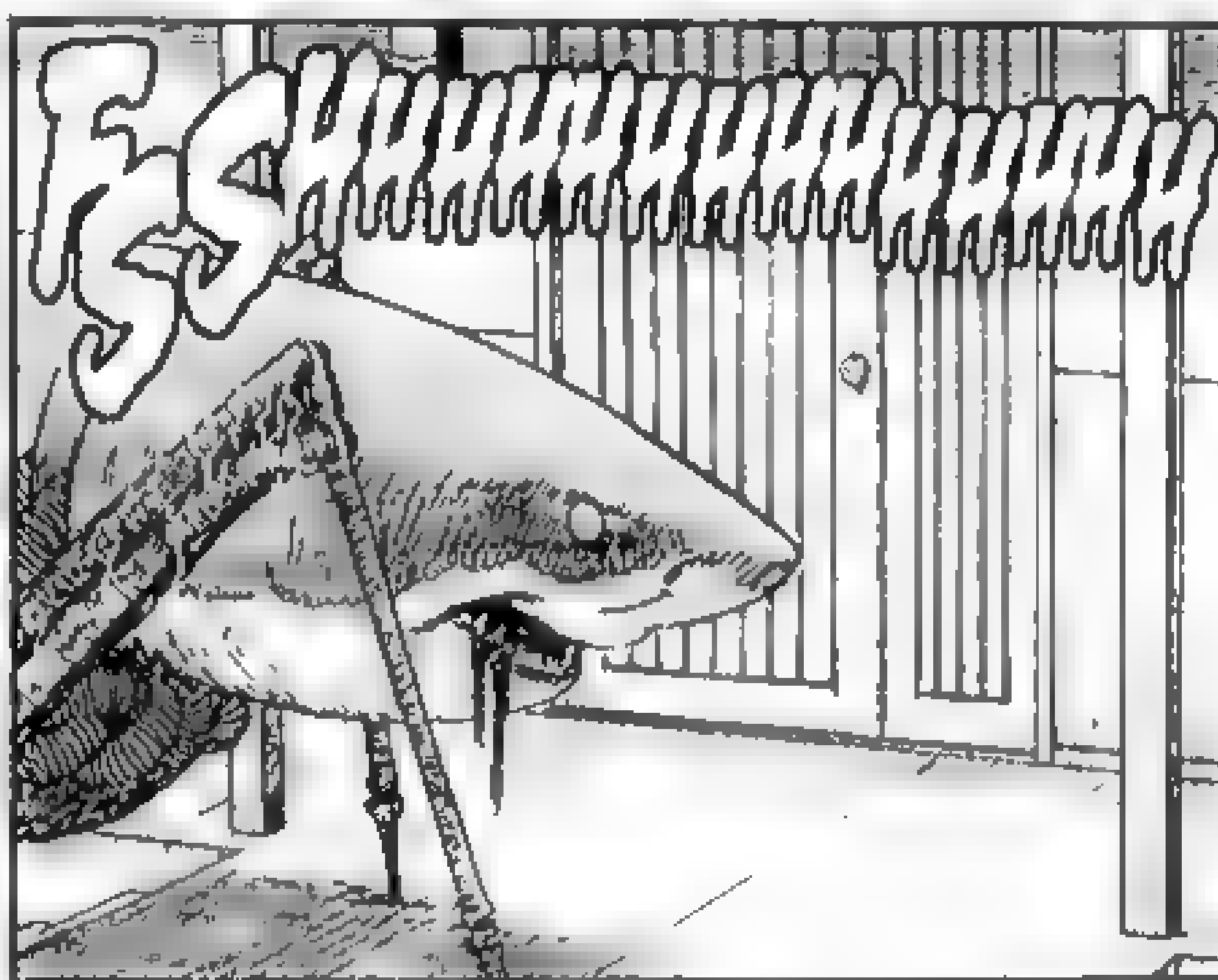
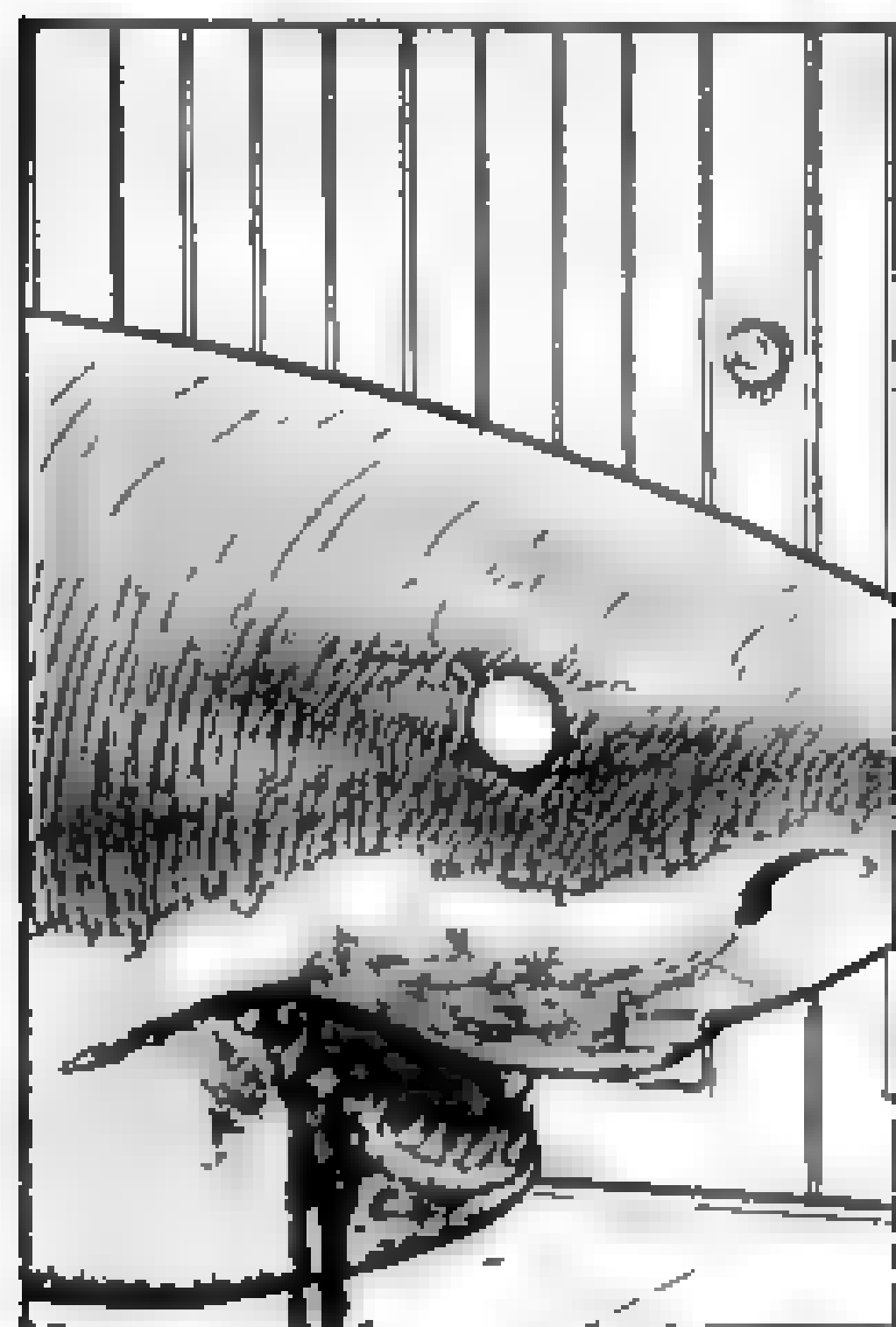


Shark Attack









**KRRRAK!  
KAKRUNCH!**

**KLUNK  
KLATTER**

**YAAA!**



**KLUNK**



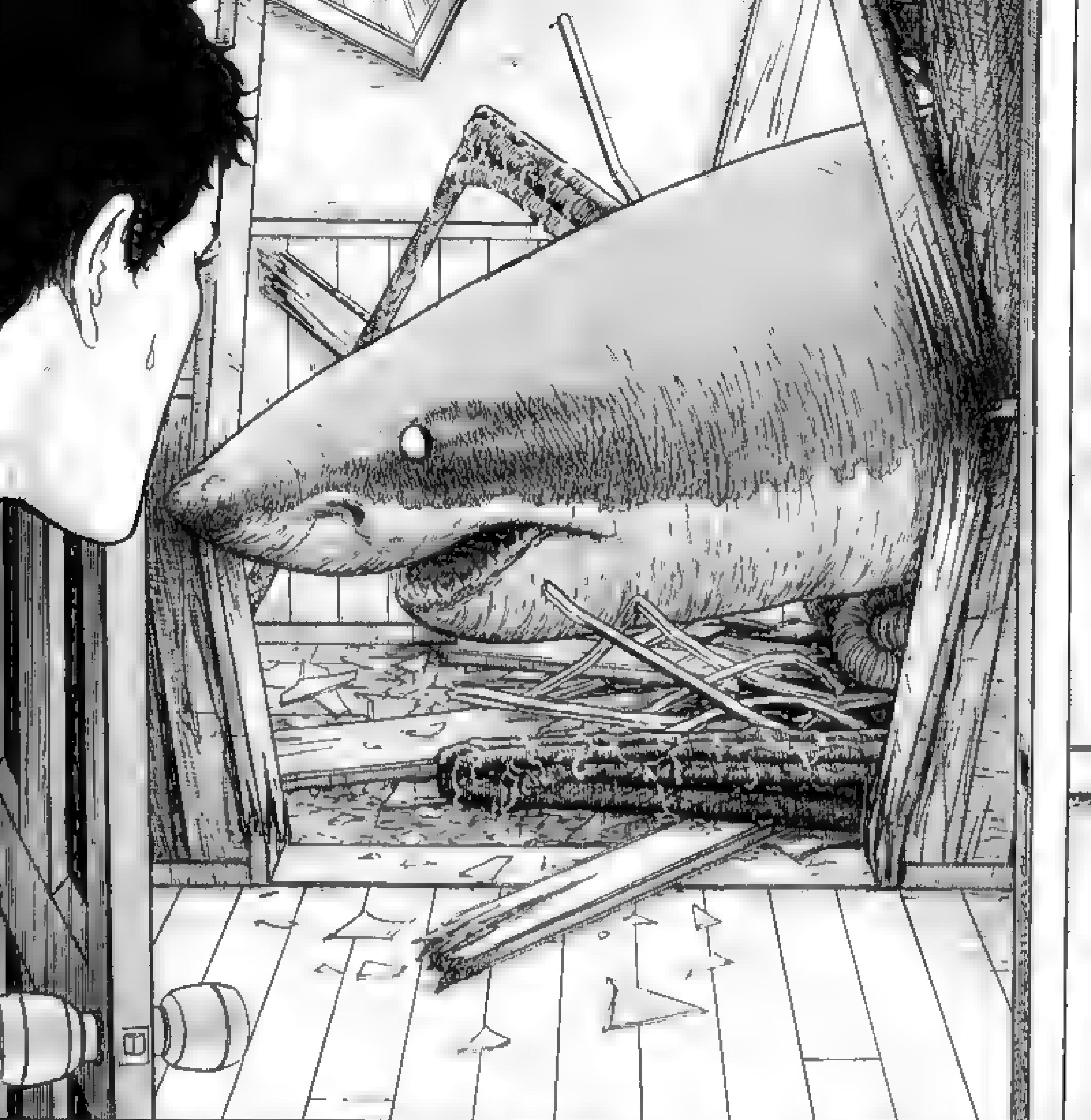
**SKREE**



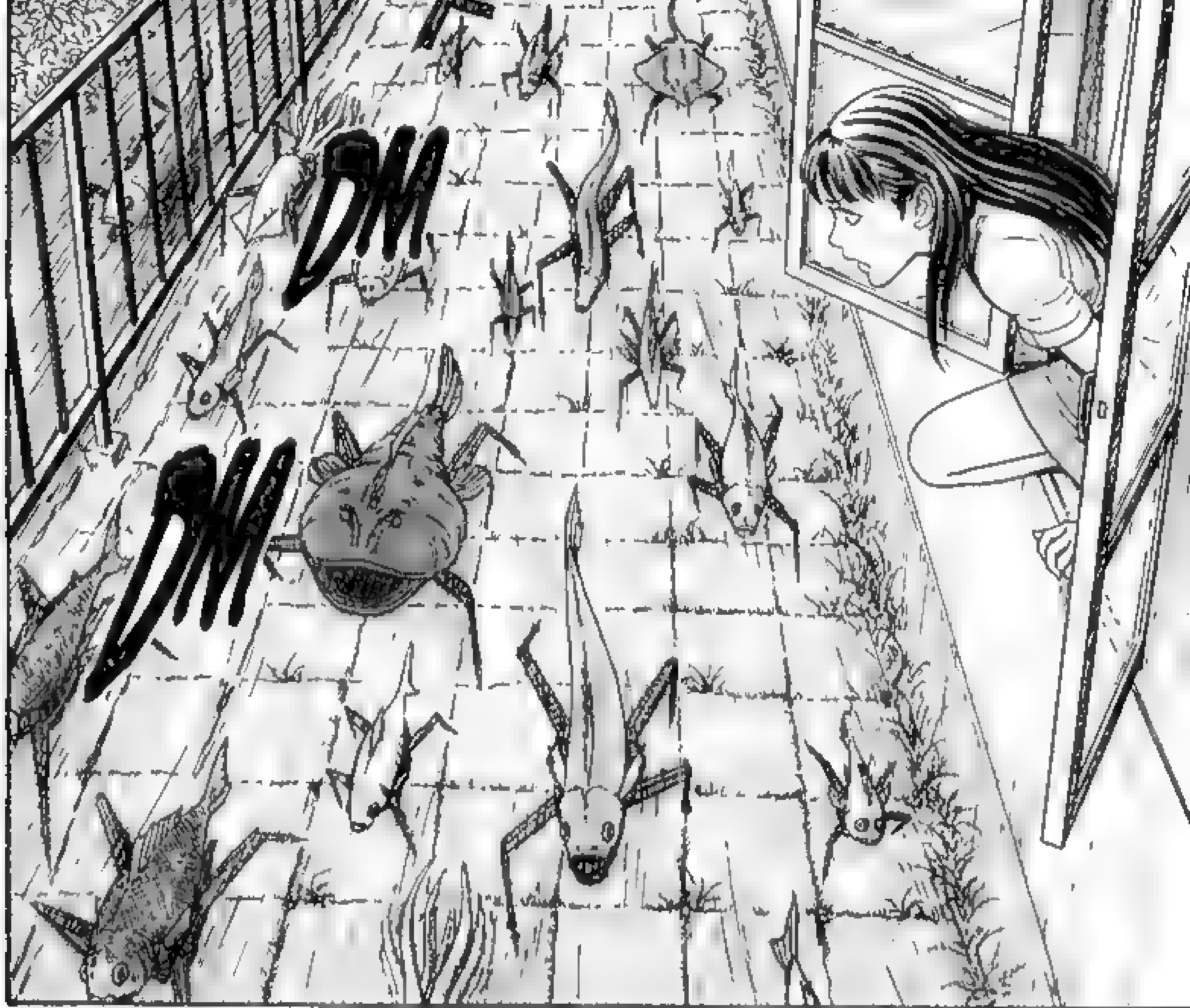
**CHAI**

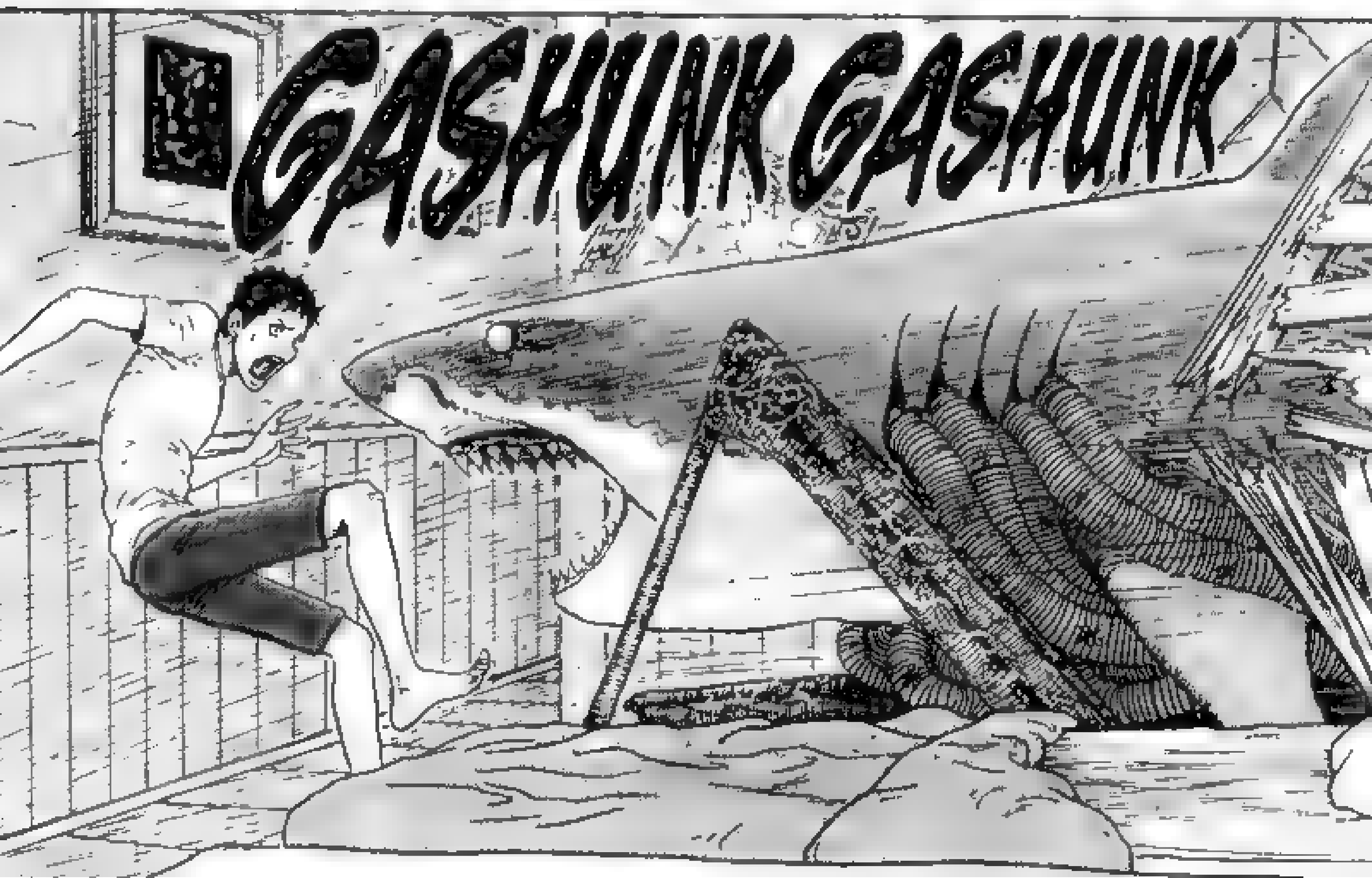
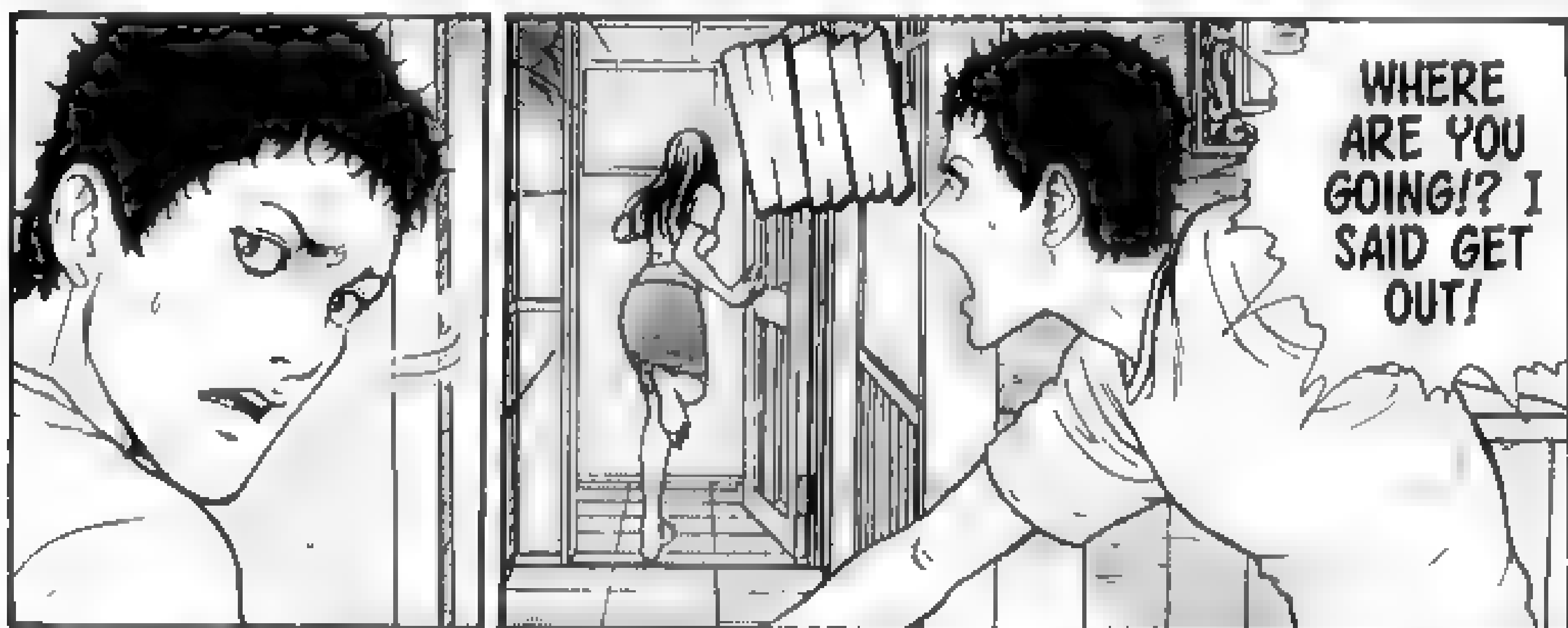


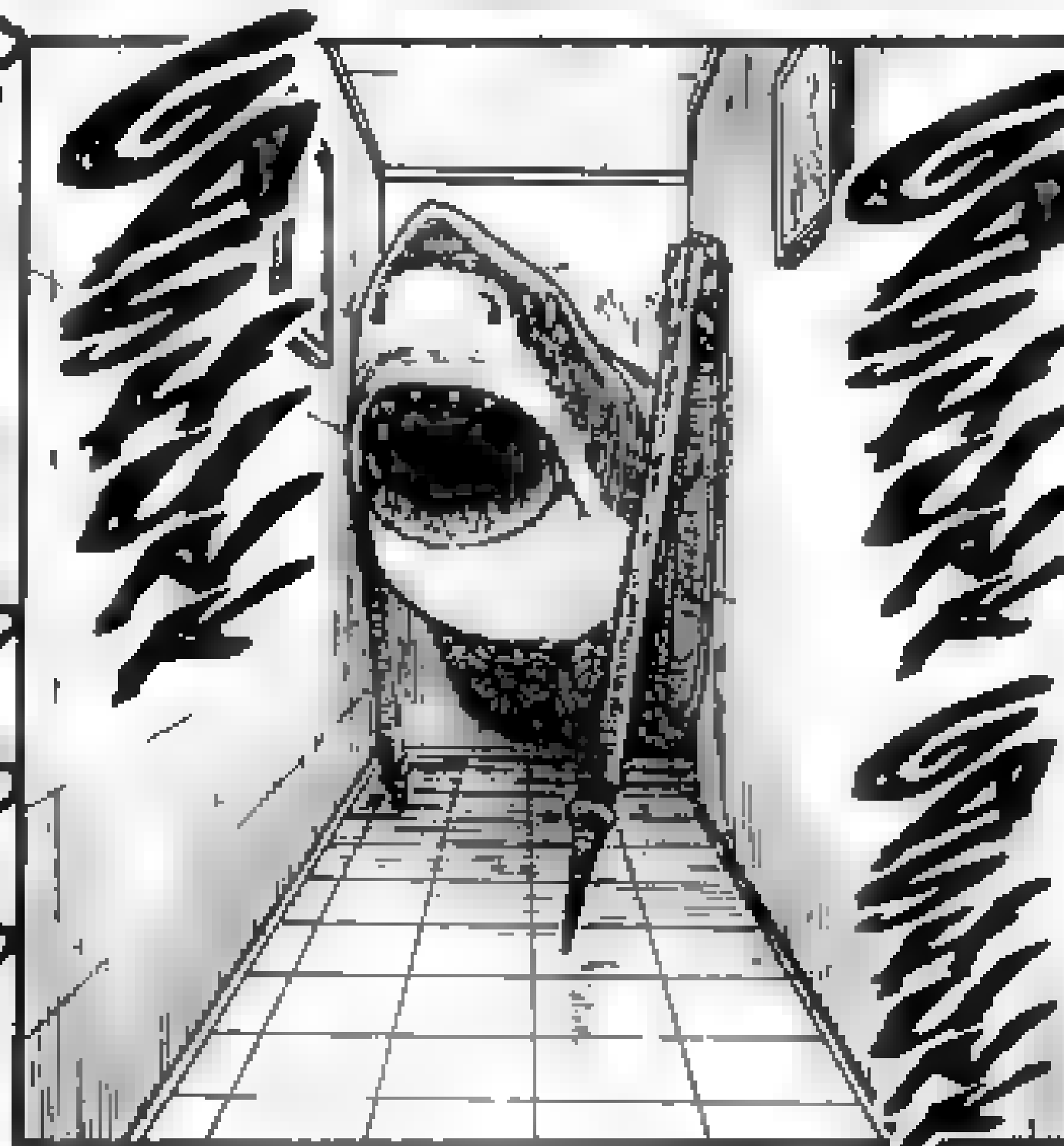
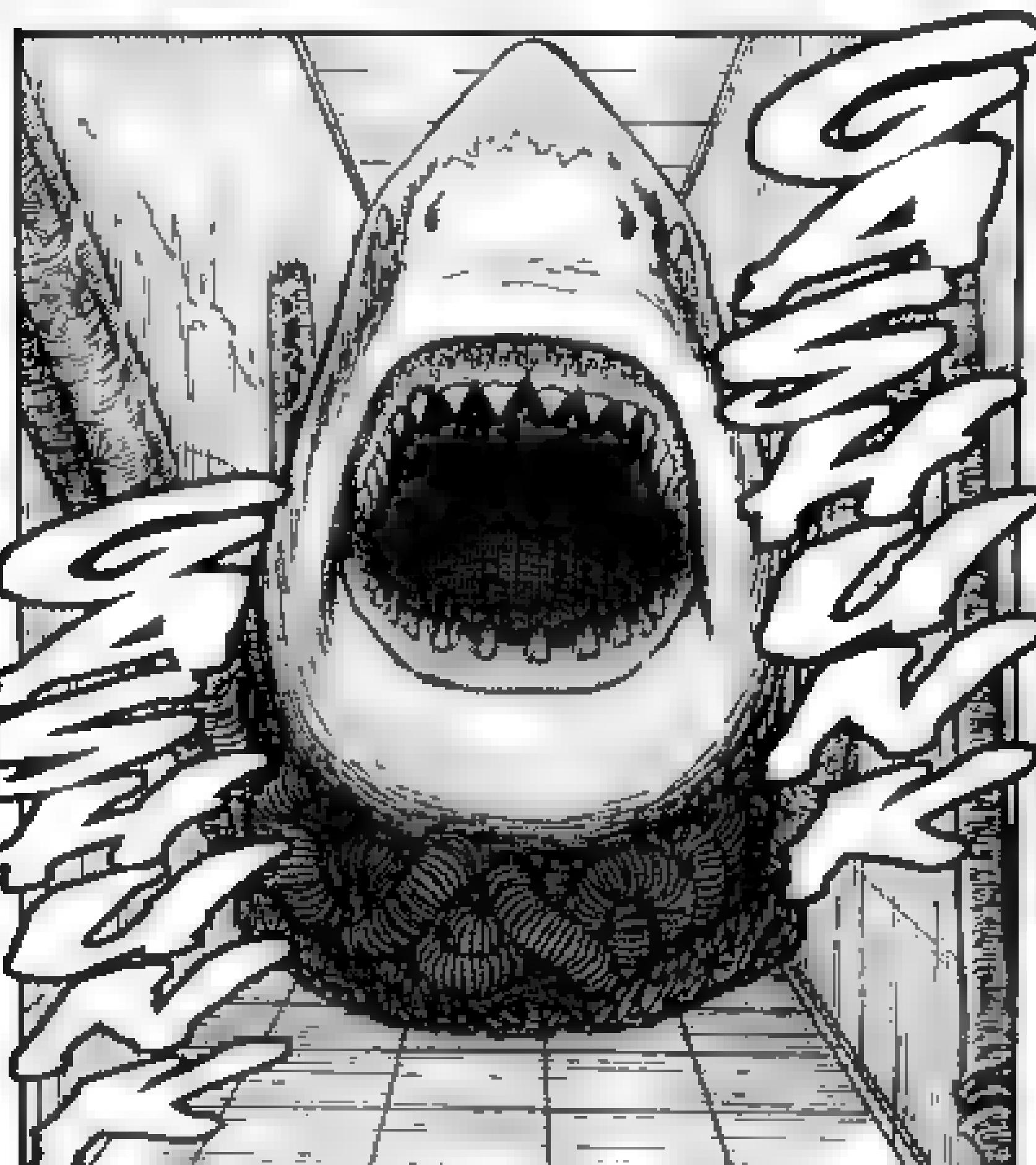
**T-TADA-SHI...**



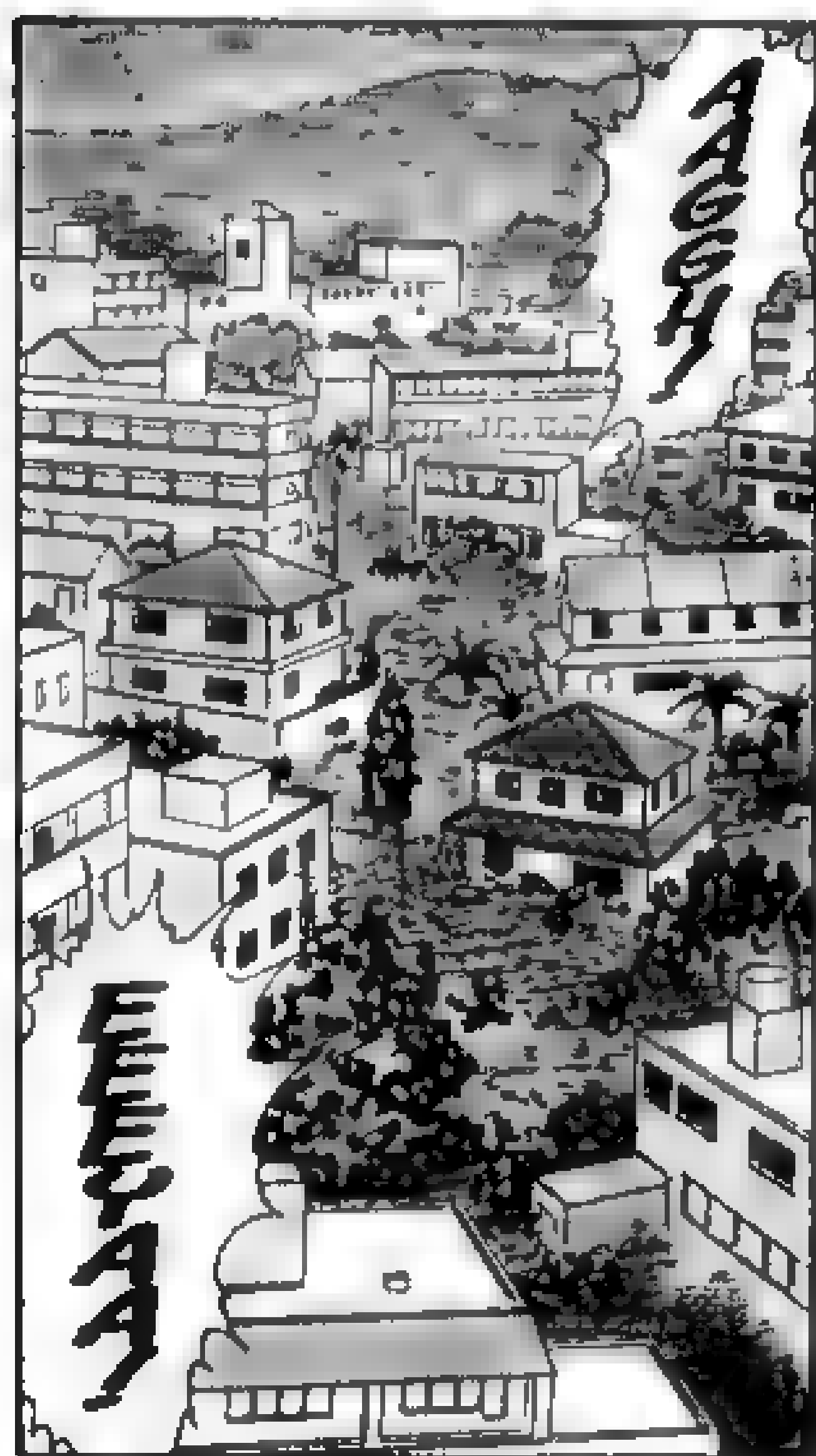
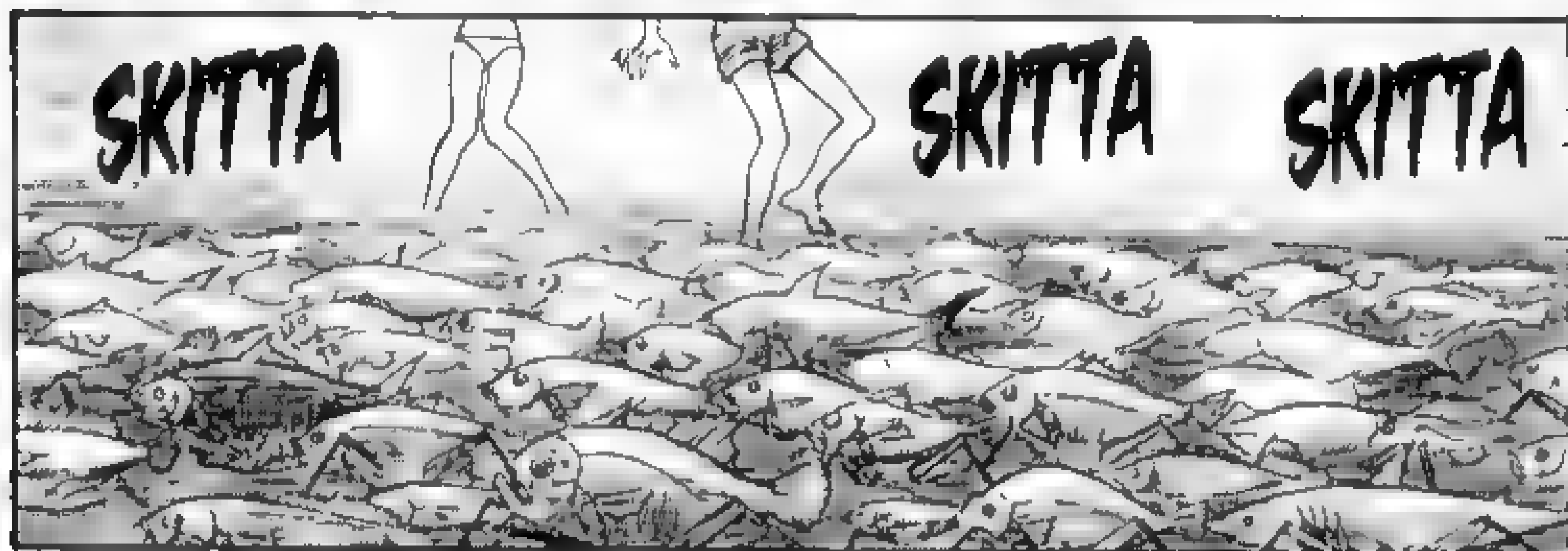
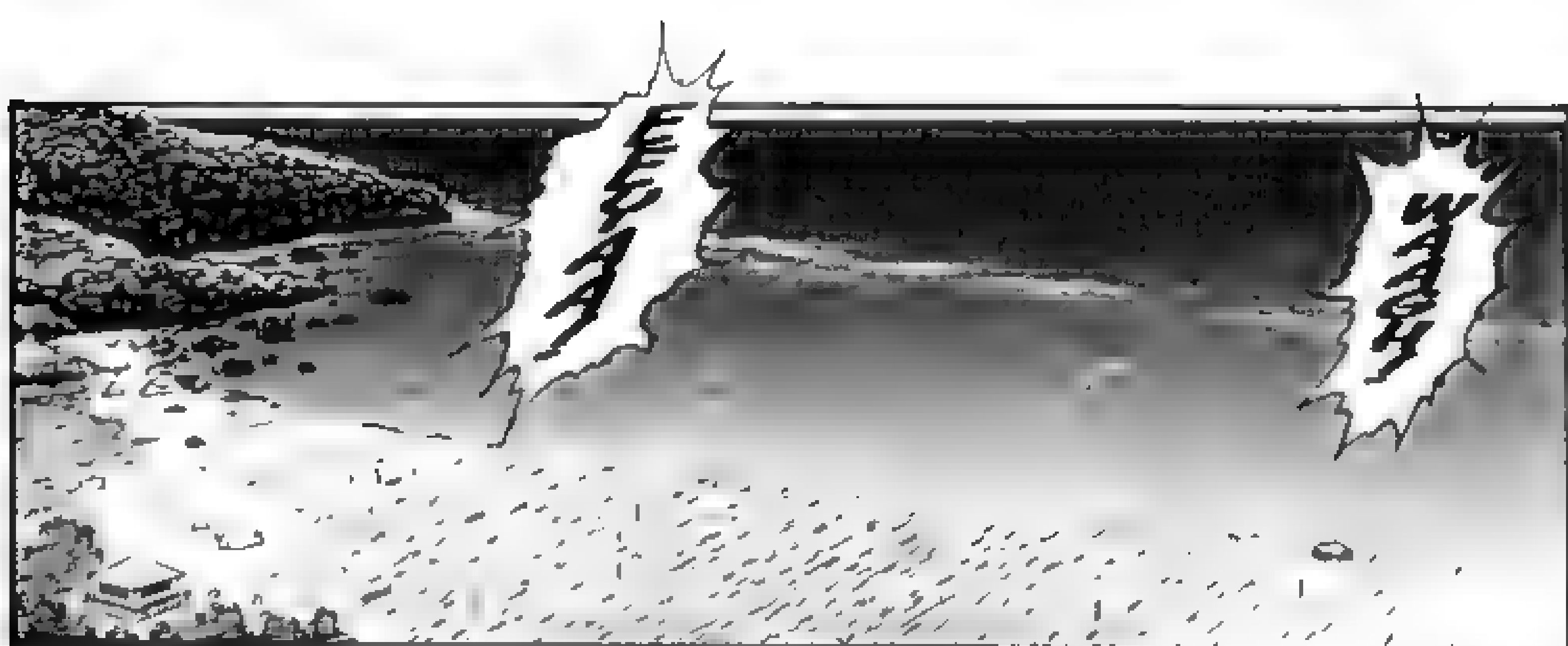


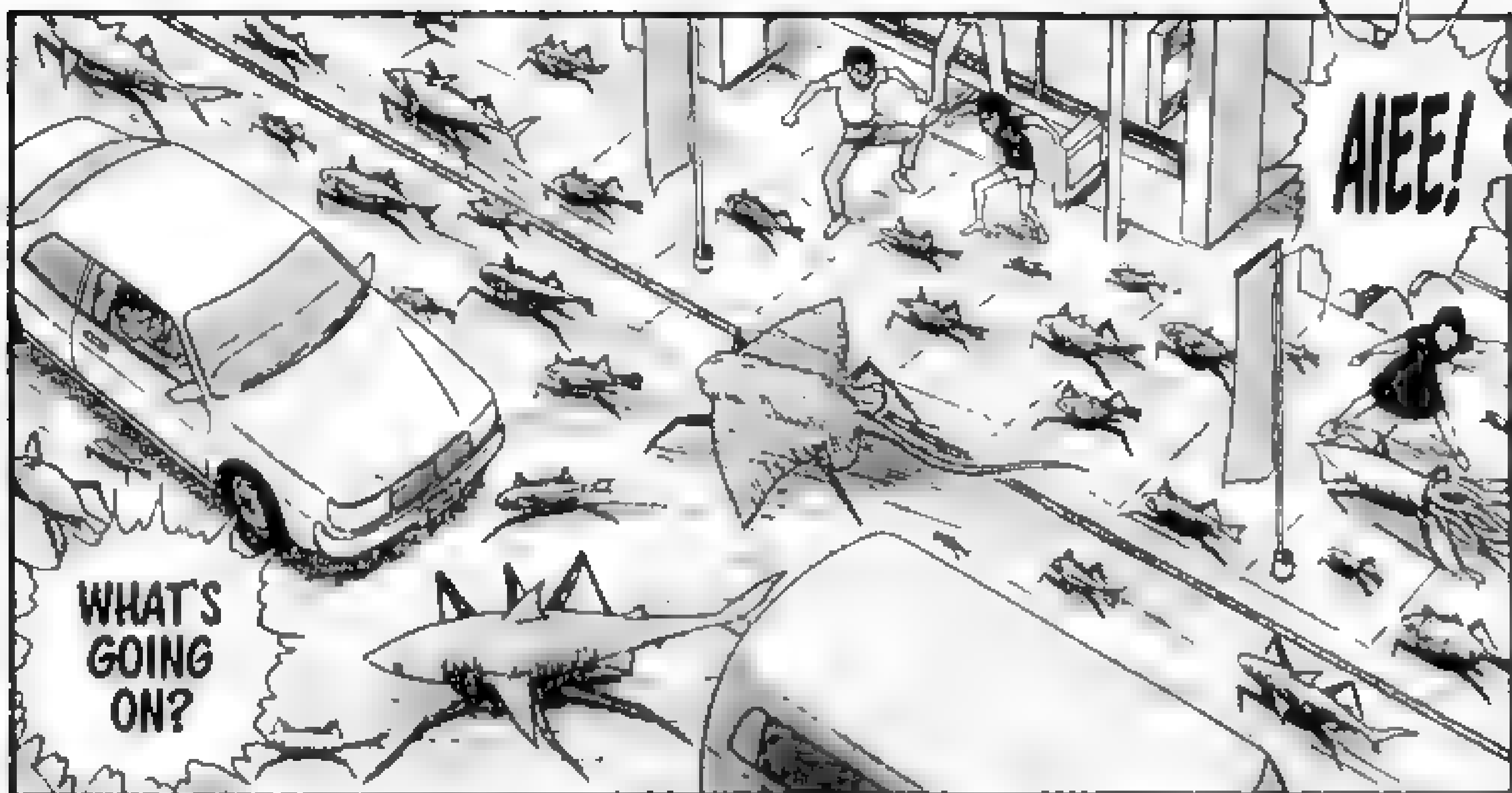






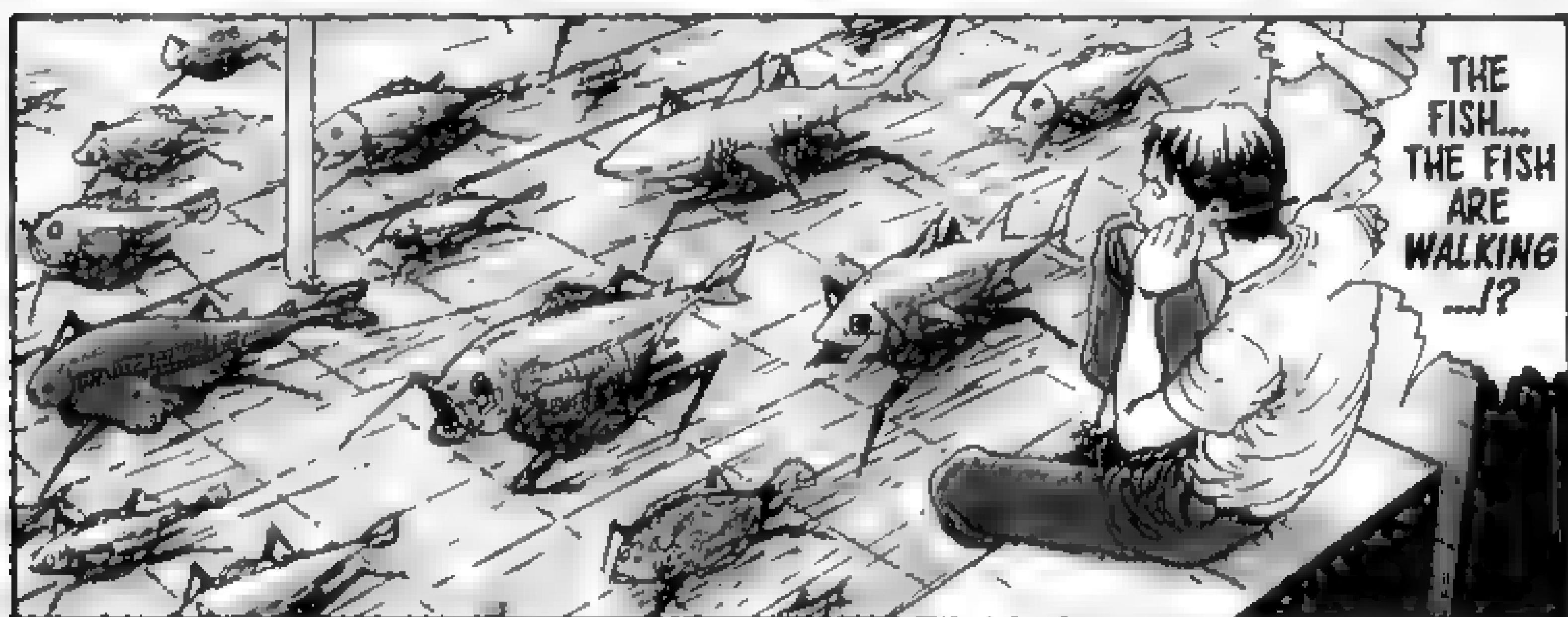






WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?

AIEE!



THE  
FISH...  
THE FISH  
ARE  
WALKING  
...!?



SMELLS  
LIKE  
THEY'RE  
ROTTEN!

WHAT  
A  
STINK!

THERE'S  
TOO  
MANY!

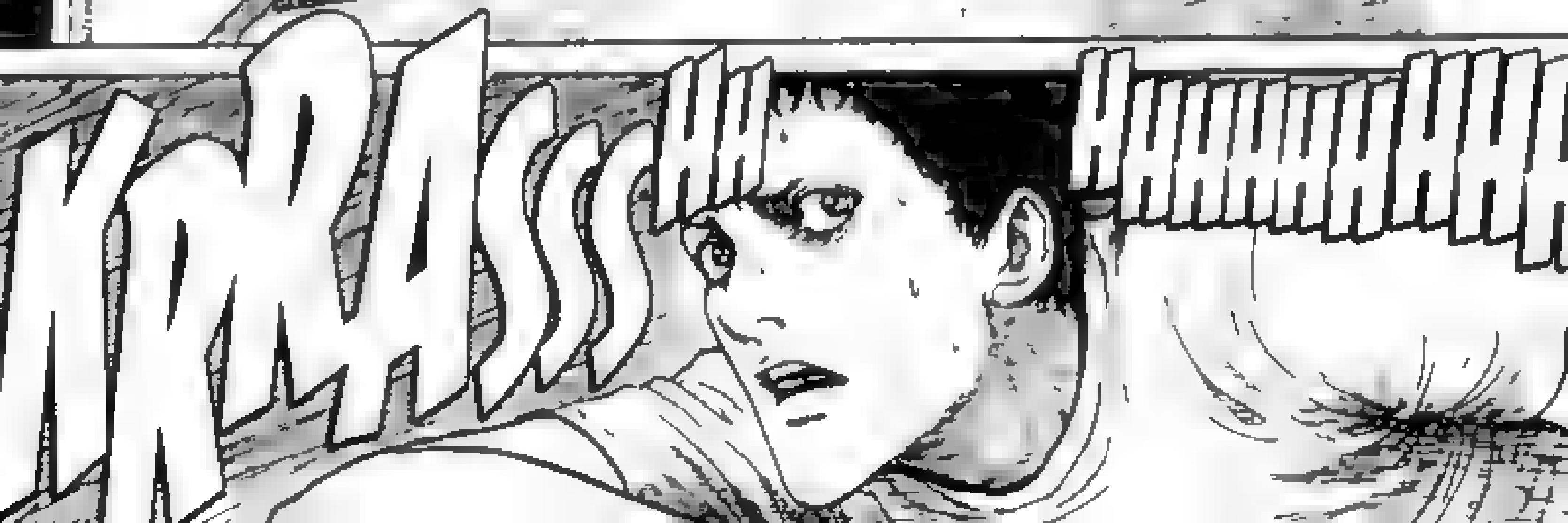
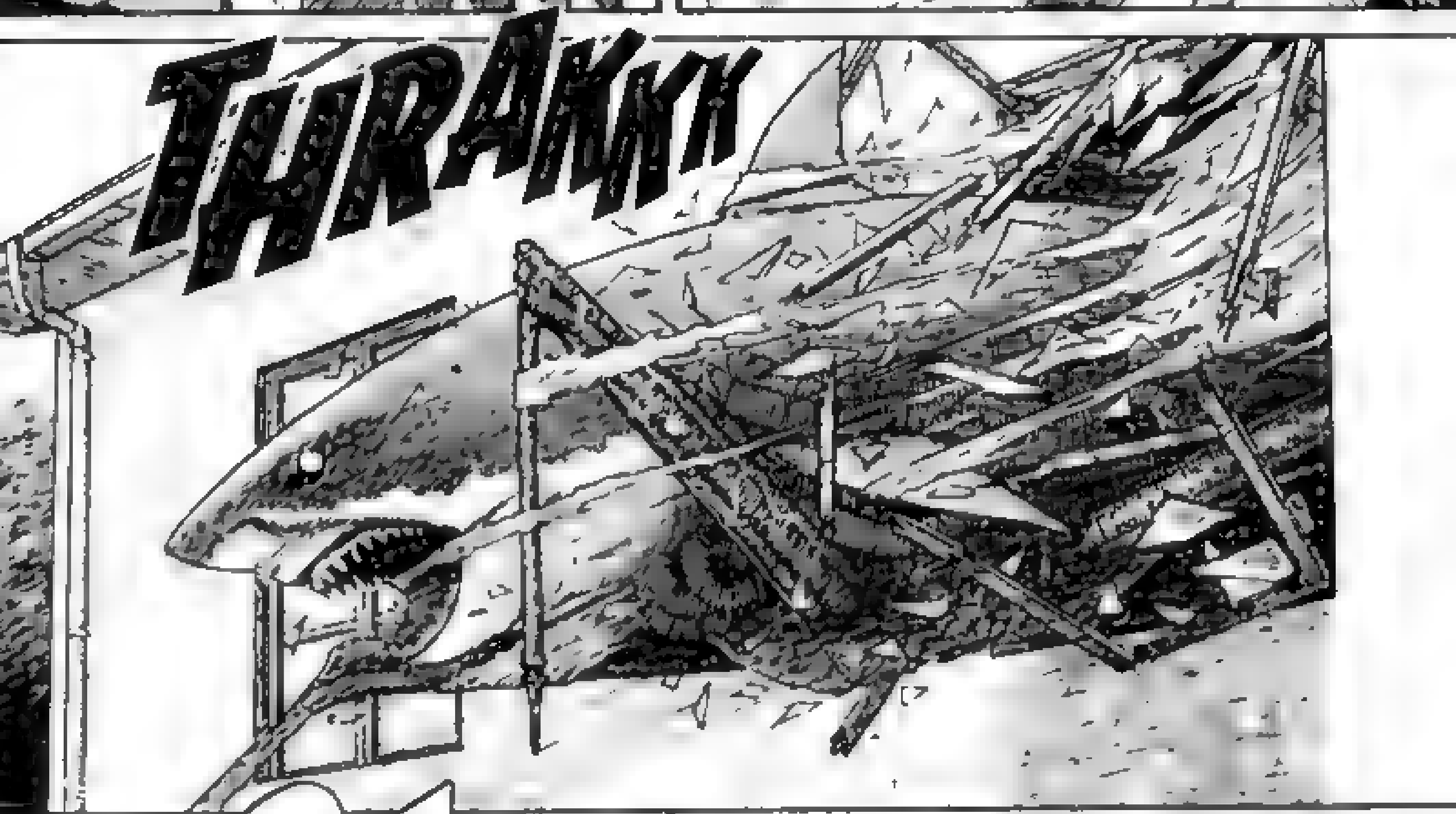
CALL  
FOR  
BACK-  
UP!!









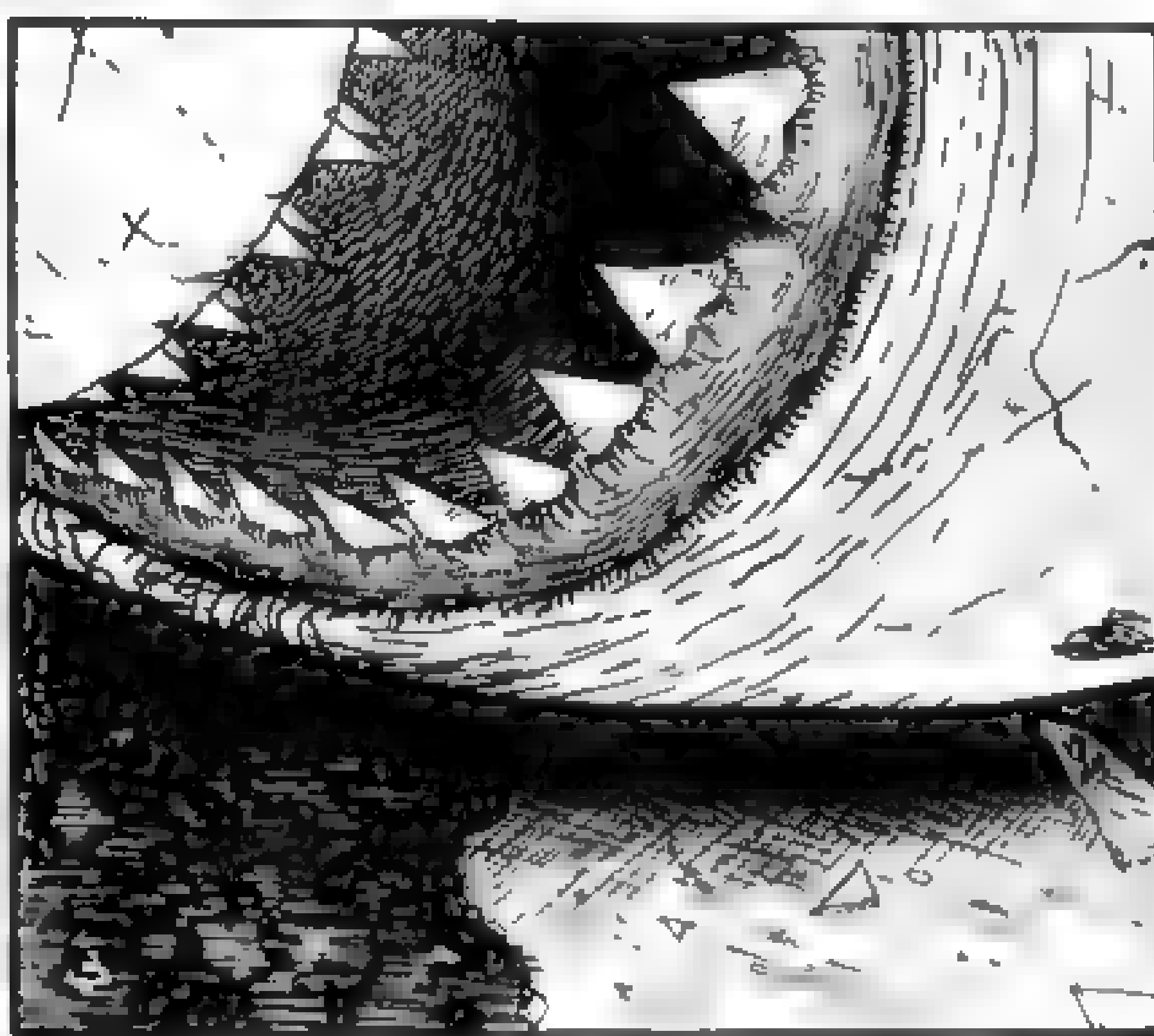
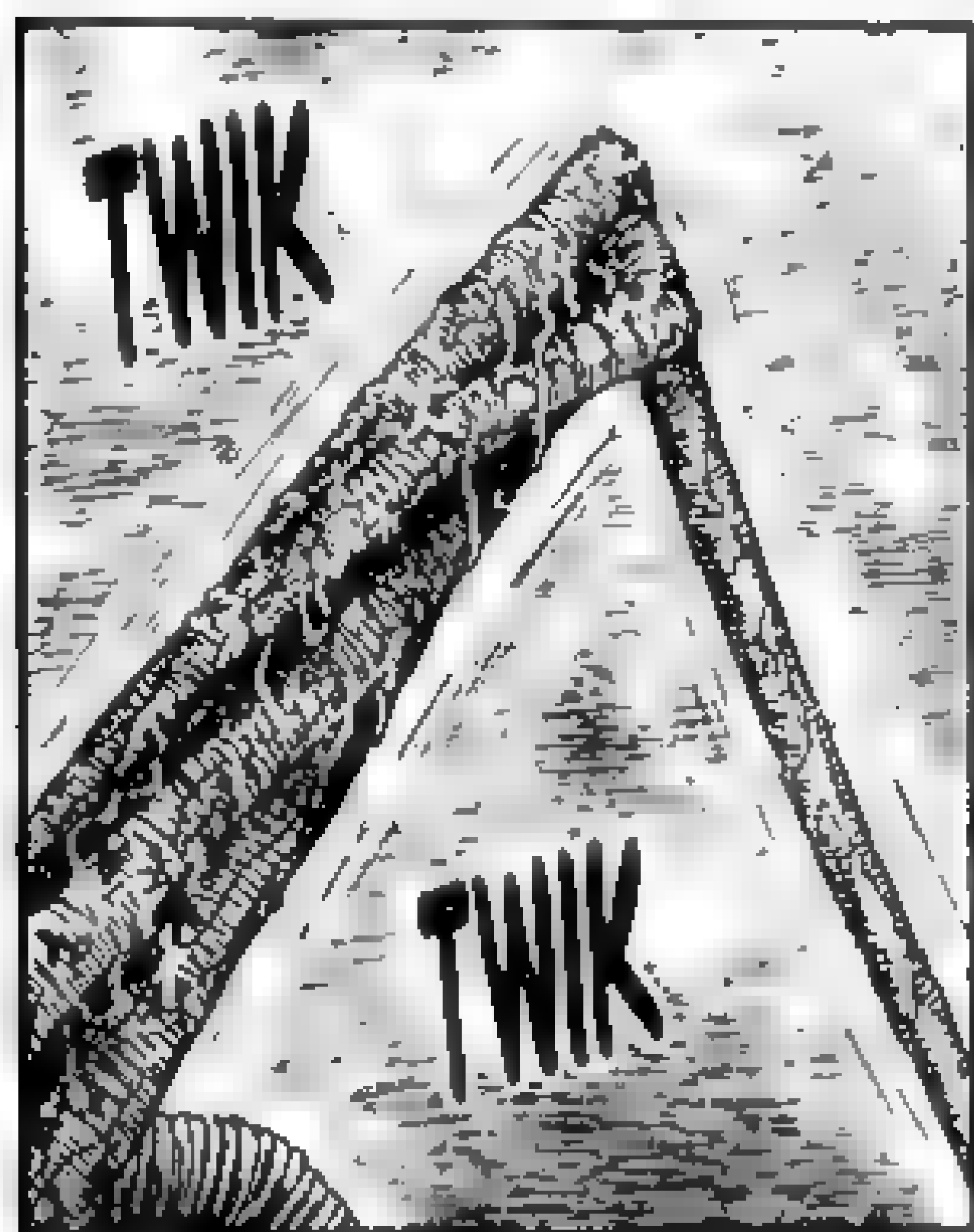
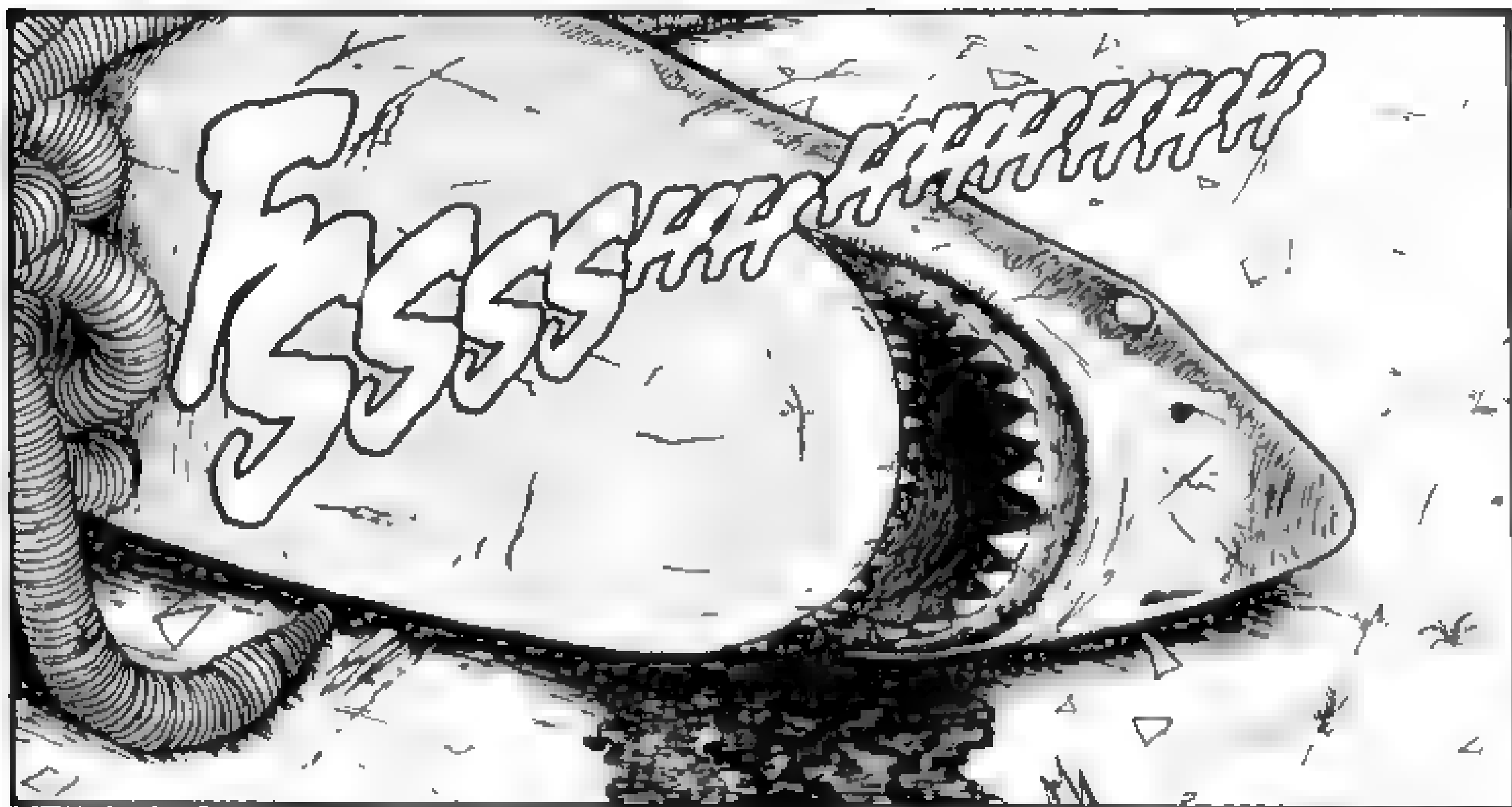




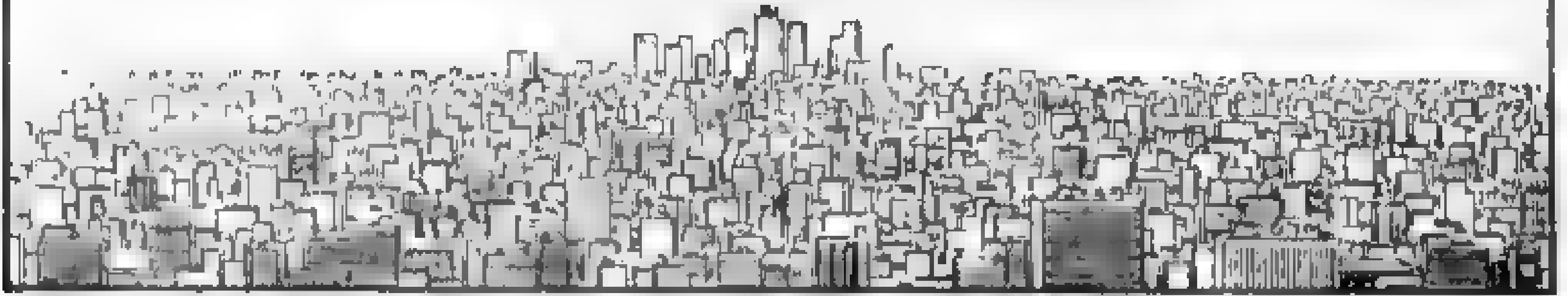




Flight



TOKYO.



THE  
LEGGED FISH  
CREATURES  
SWARMING THE  
MAIN ISLAND OF  
OKINAWA HAVE  
NOW BEEN  
SIGHTED  
THROUGHOUT  
THE ISLAND  
CHAIN...

IN TODAY'S  
TOP STORY, THE  
MAYHEM IN OKINAWA  
CONTINUES AS  
THE DEATH TOLL  
FROM THE  
WALKING FISH  
RISES.

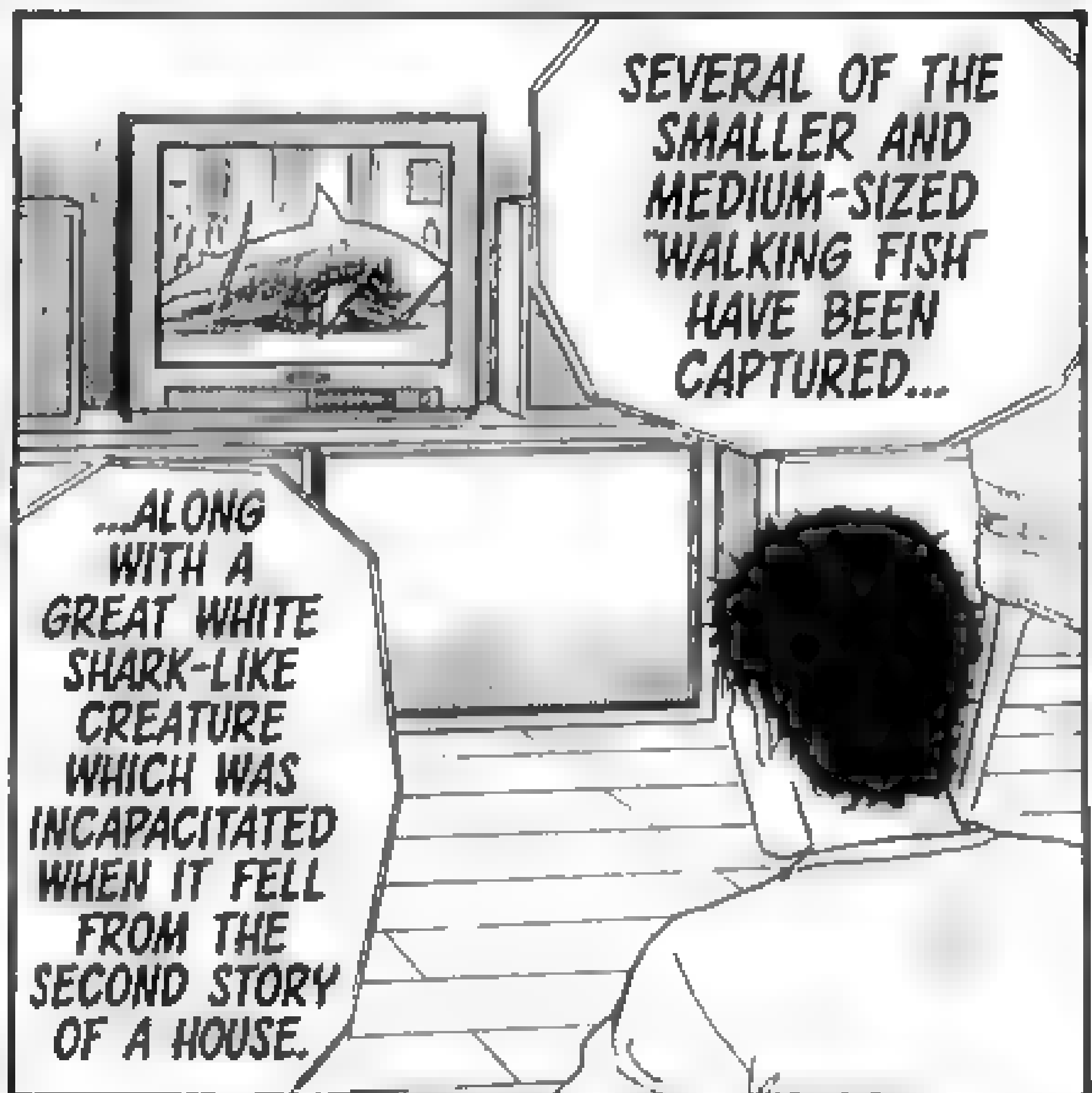
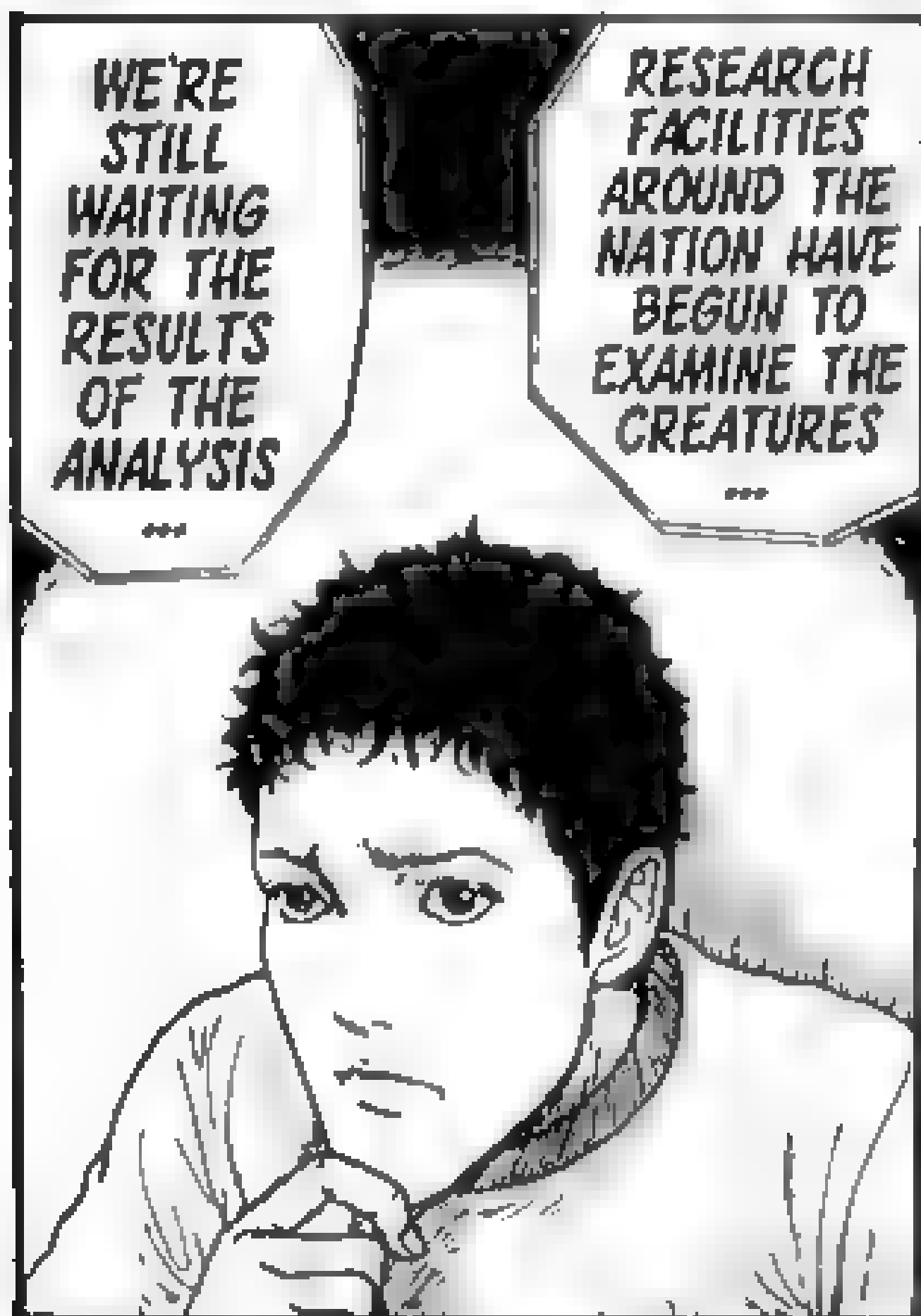
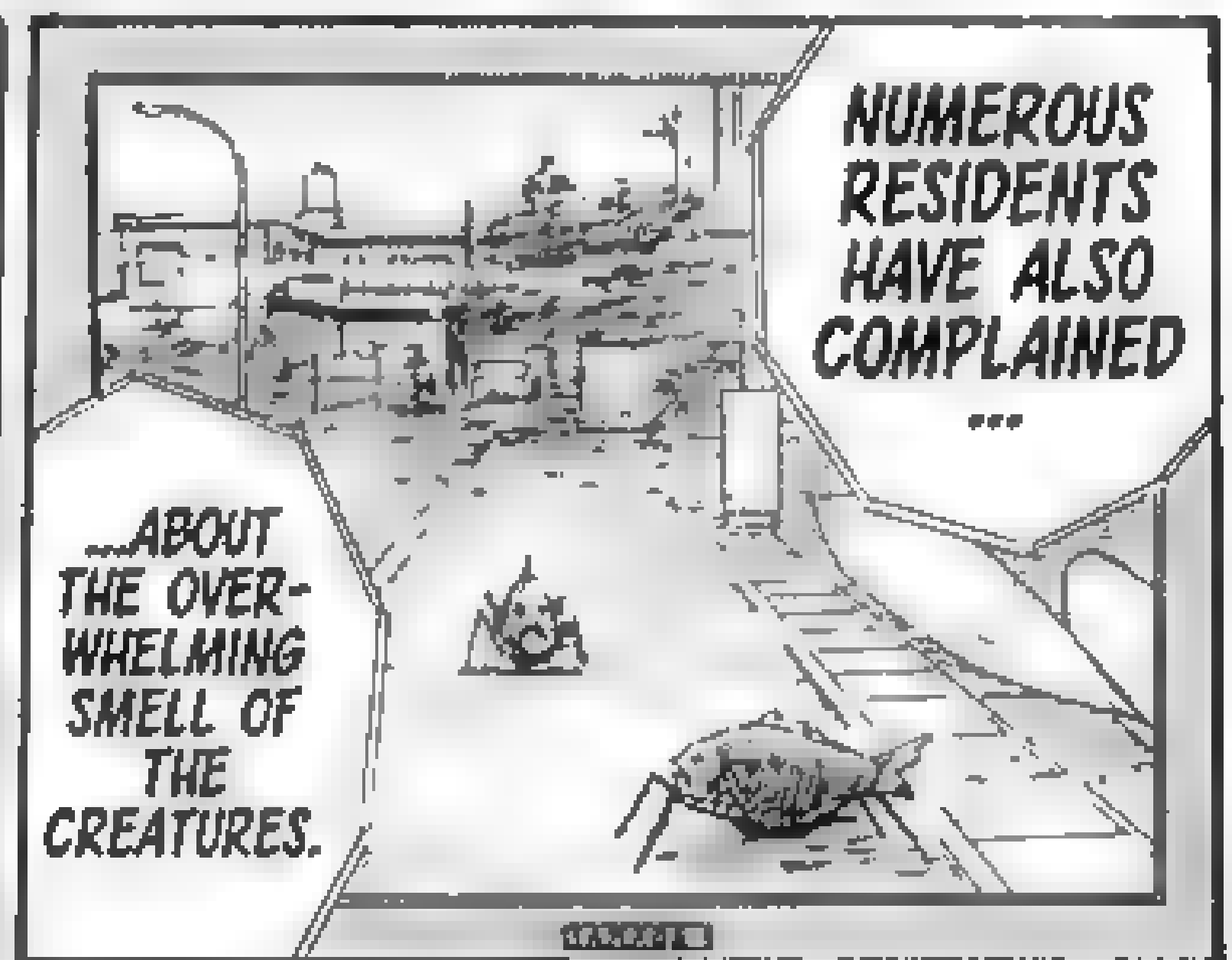
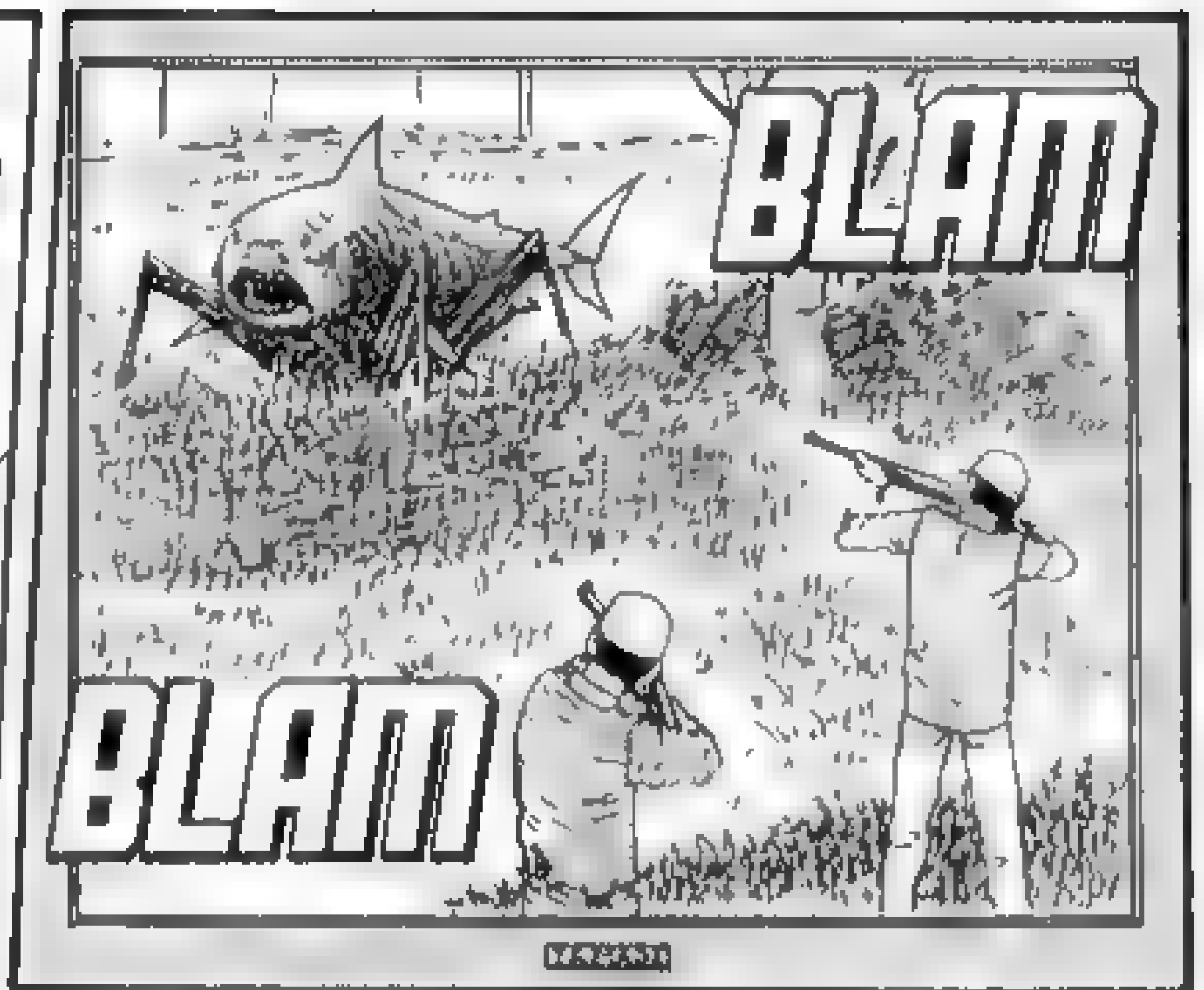
THE MOST  
THREATENING  
"WALKING FISH,"  
THE GREAT  
WHITE SHARK  
SPECIES,  
HAVE CAUSED  
NUMEROUS  
DEATHS AND  
INJURIES.

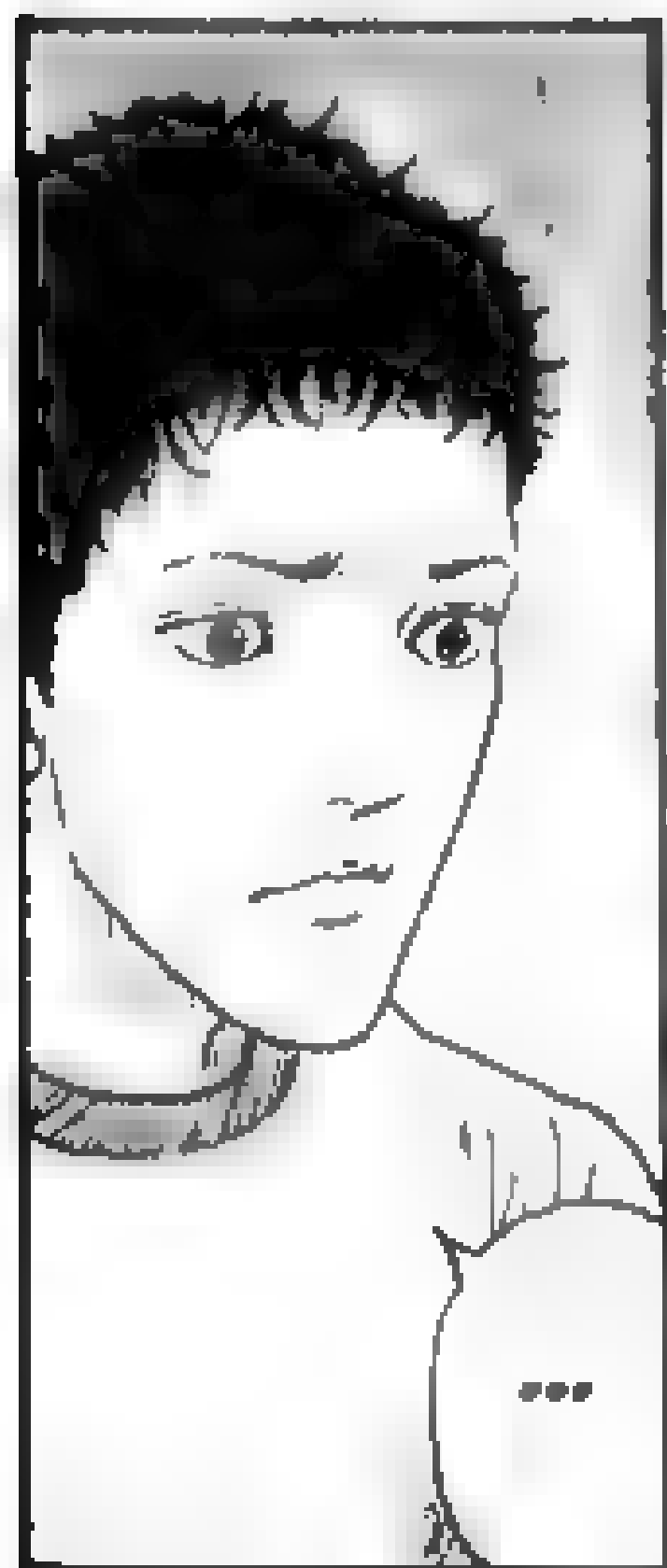
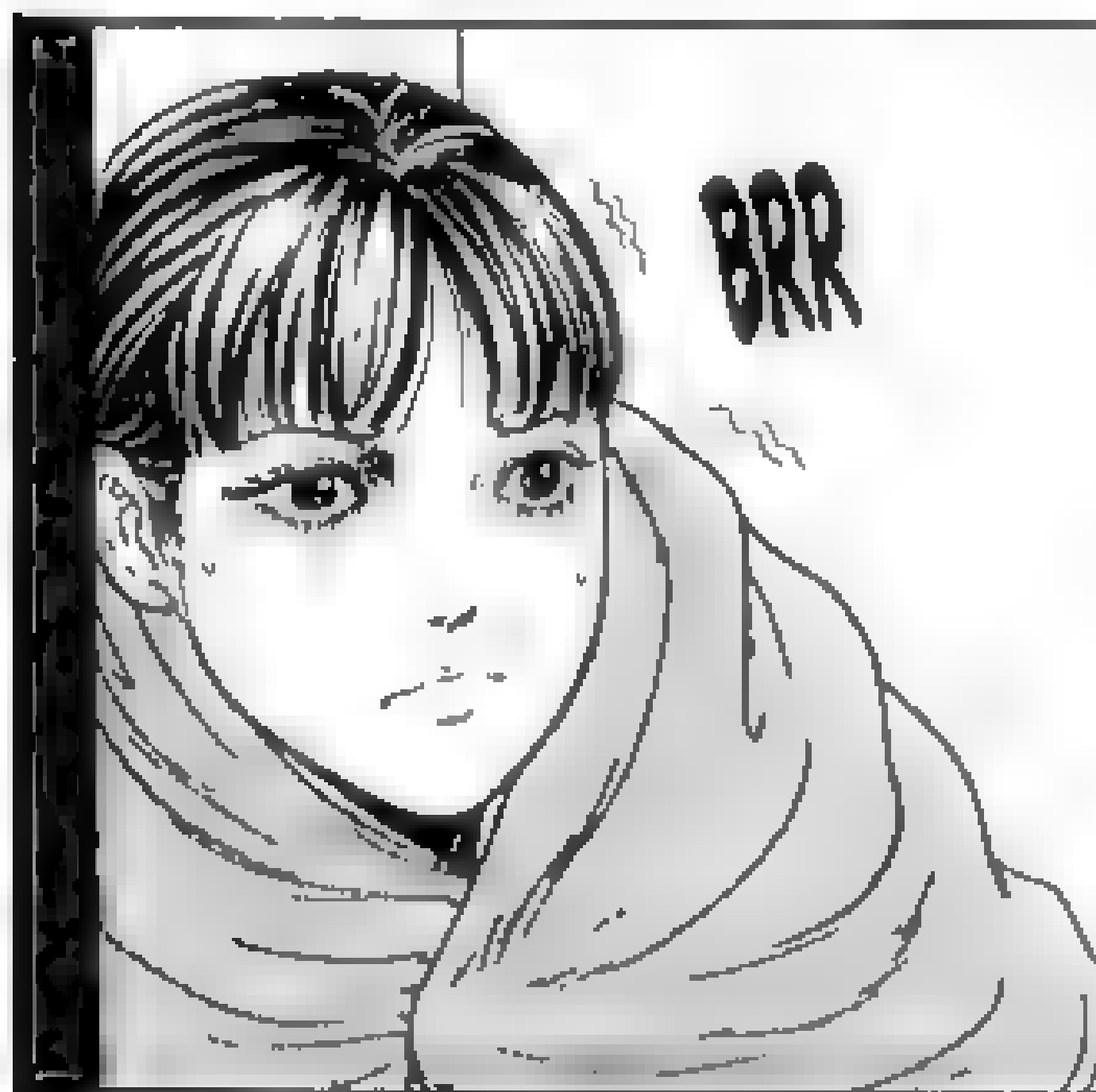
LOCAL  
HUNTERS AND  
THE JAPAN  
SELF DEFENSE  
FORCES HAVE  
MOBILIZED  
TO HUNT  
DOWN THE  
CREATURES.

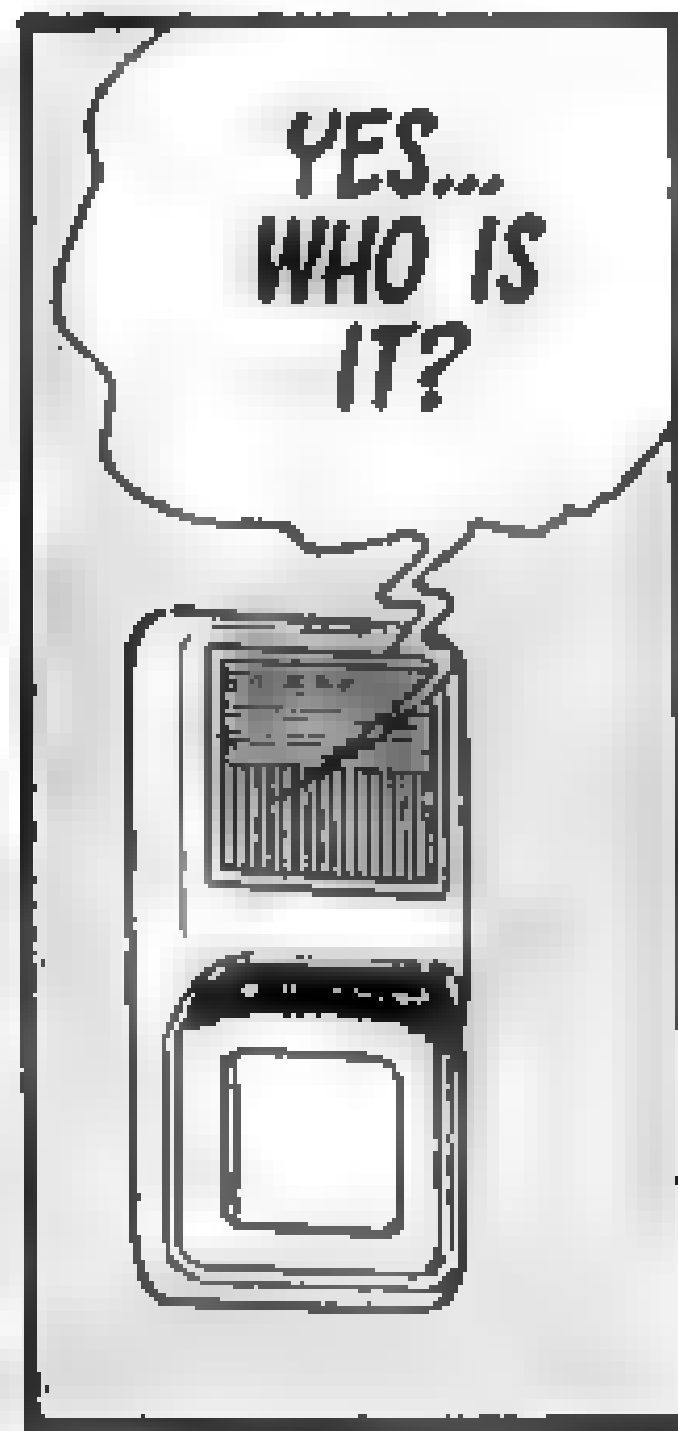
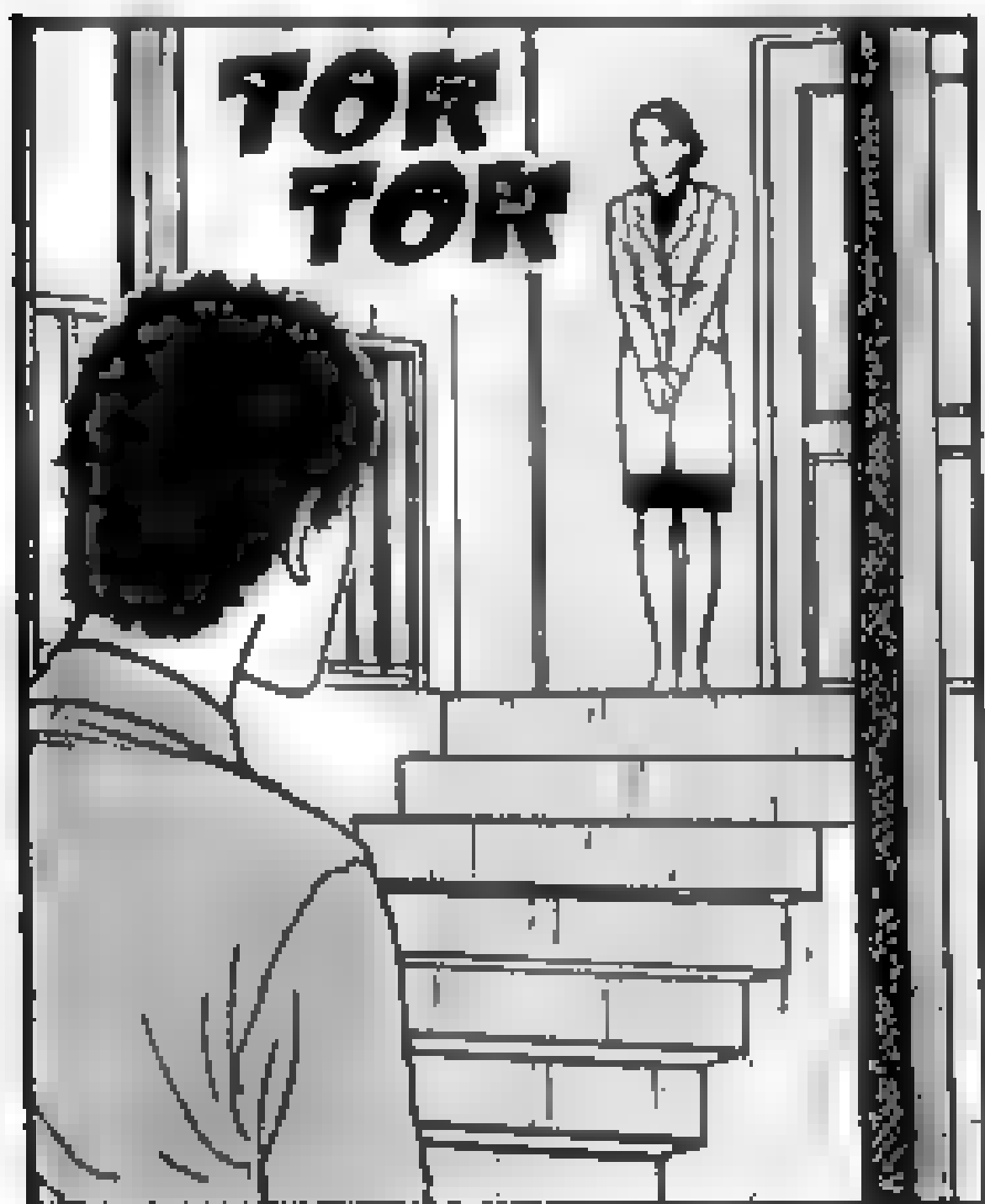
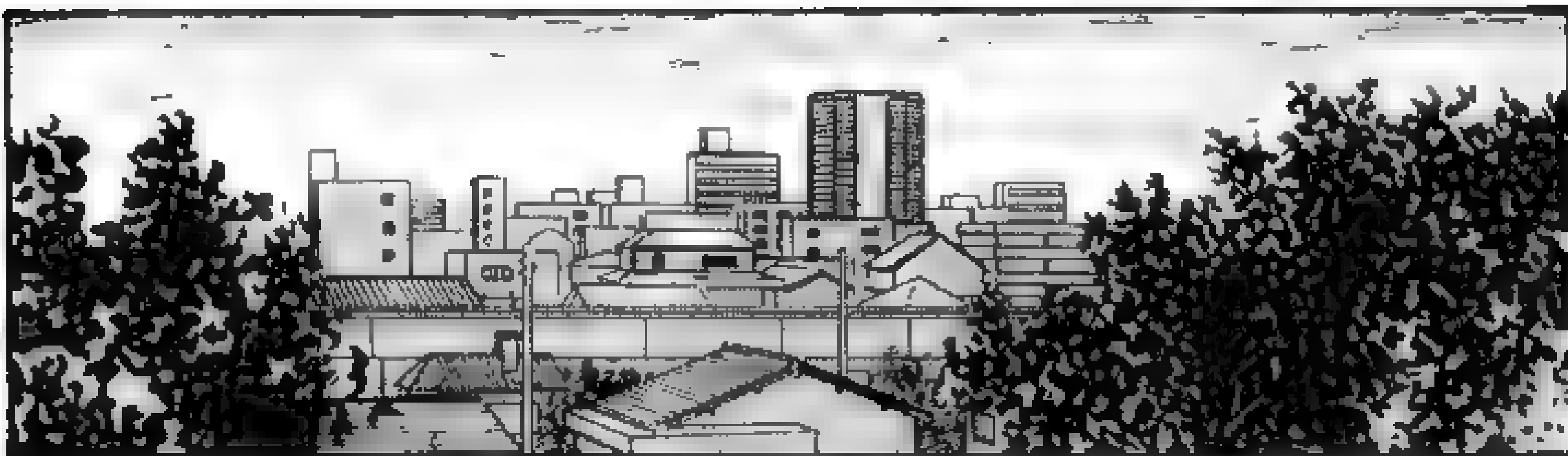
ECONOMIC  
DAMAGE HAS  
BEEN MEASURED  
IN THE HUNDREDS  
OF MILLIONS OF  
YEN AS STREETS  
ARE EMPTY  
AND BUSINESS  
IS AT A  
STANDSTILL.

...INCLUDING  
IRIOMOTE,  
ISIGAKI, AND  
MIYAKO, AS  
WELL AS THE  
SMALLER  
SURROUNDING  
ISLANDS.













OH,  
TADASHI...  
GOOD TO  
SEE YOU.



DOCTOR  
KOYA-  
NAGI

YOUR  
NEPHEW  
IS  
HERE.



MY  
DAYS AS  
THE YOUNG,  
GENIUS  
INVENTOR  
ARE LONG  
GONE. YOU  
CAN'T  
FIGHT  
AGE.

AHH,  
I'M KIND  
OF IN A  
SLUMP. I'VE  
BEEN  
SHORT ON  
IDEAS.



HOW'S  
YOUR  
WORK  
GOING  
?

HEY.



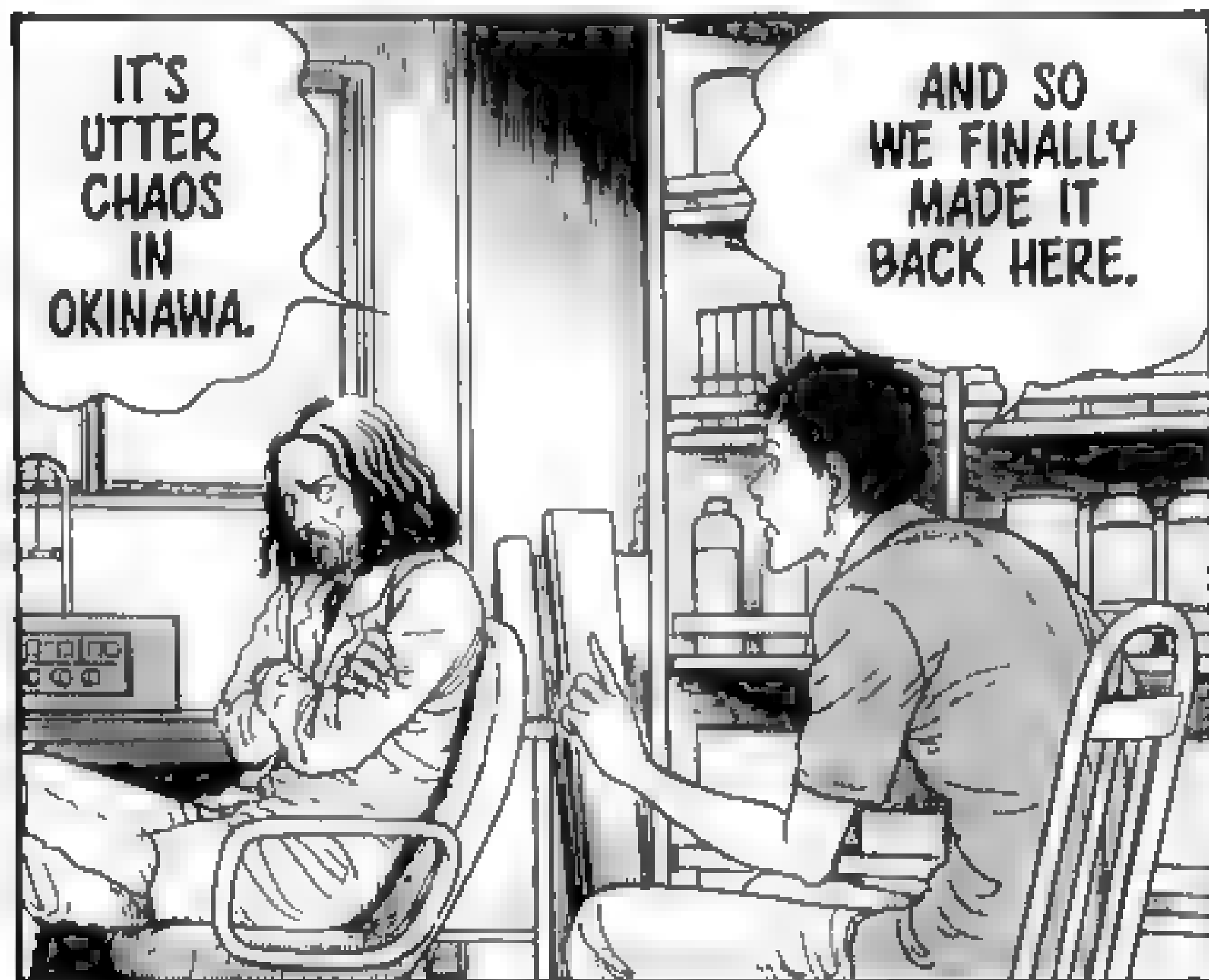
BUT  
ANYWAY,  
THAT'S NOT  
IMPORTANT.

HA HA...IT  
WASN'T SO  
GREAT. KAORI  
GOT KIND  
OF UPSET.



WHAT  
ABOUT  
YOU?

HOW  
WAS YOUR  
TRIP TO  
OKINAWA  
WITH YOUR  
GIRL-  
FRIEND?





I COULDN'T  
BRING  
SOMETHING  
SO  
DISGUSTING!  
IF YOU  
SAW ONE  
UP CLOSE  
YOU'D  
KNOW WHAT  
I MEAN.

YOU  
MUST  
BE  
KIDDING  
!



IT'D LIKE  
TO SEE  
ONE...YOU  
DIDN'T  
BRING ONE  
BACK FROM  
OKINAWA?

HMM...  
FOUR-  
LEGGED  
FISH...



YES,  
SIR.

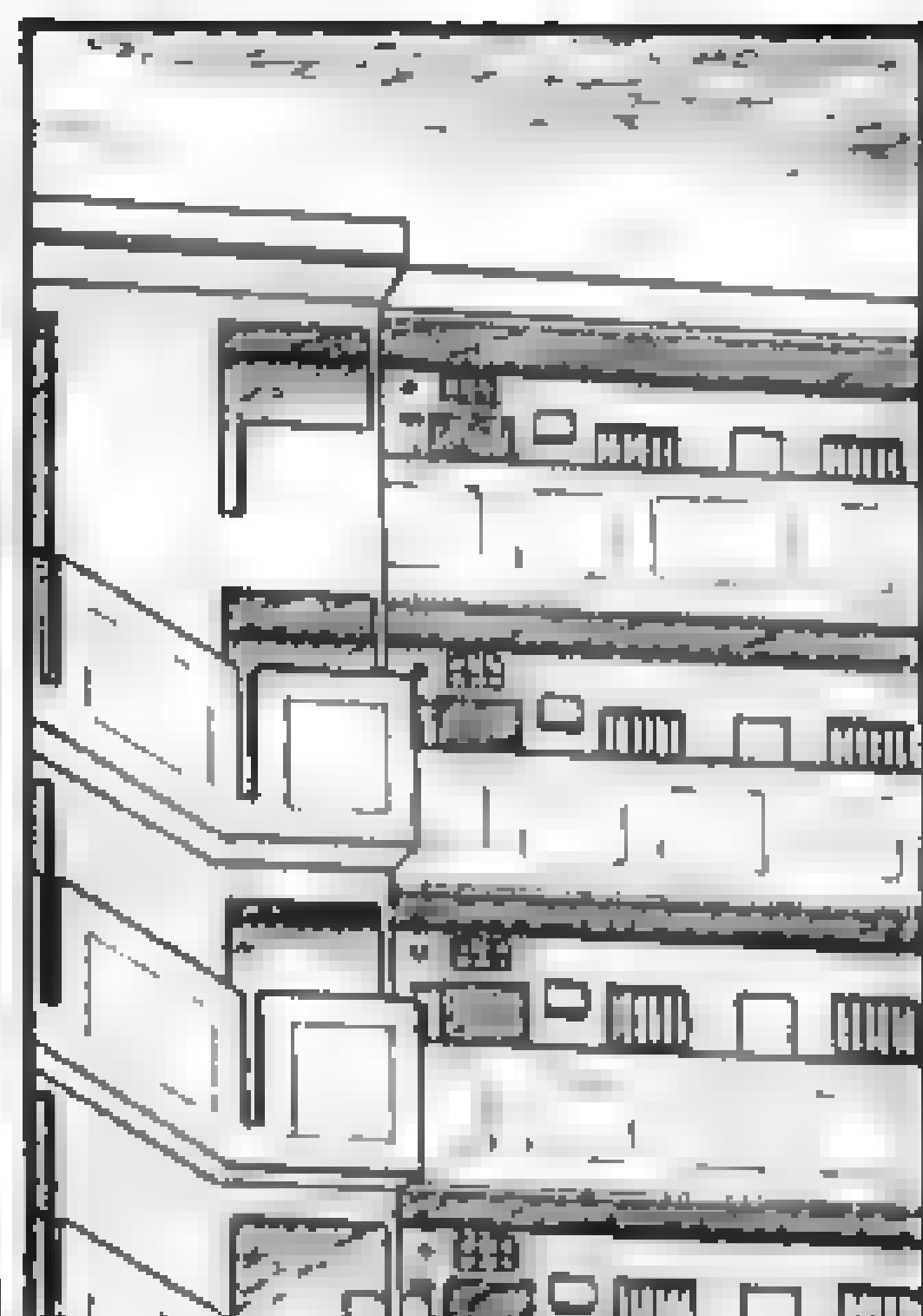
MISS YOSHIYAMA,  
I WANT YOU TO  
BOOK ME A FLIGHT  
TO OKINAWA  
IMMEDIATELY.



HMM  
...



FISH  
WITH LEGS.  
HUH...?



**I'M NOT  
CRAZY!  
WHY  
WON'T  
YOU  
LISTEN  
TO ME?**

**LOOK,  
KAORI...YOU  
HAD A SCARY  
EXPERIENCE  
SO YOU CAN'T  
GET RID OF  
YOUR MEMORY  
OF THAT  
SMELL.**

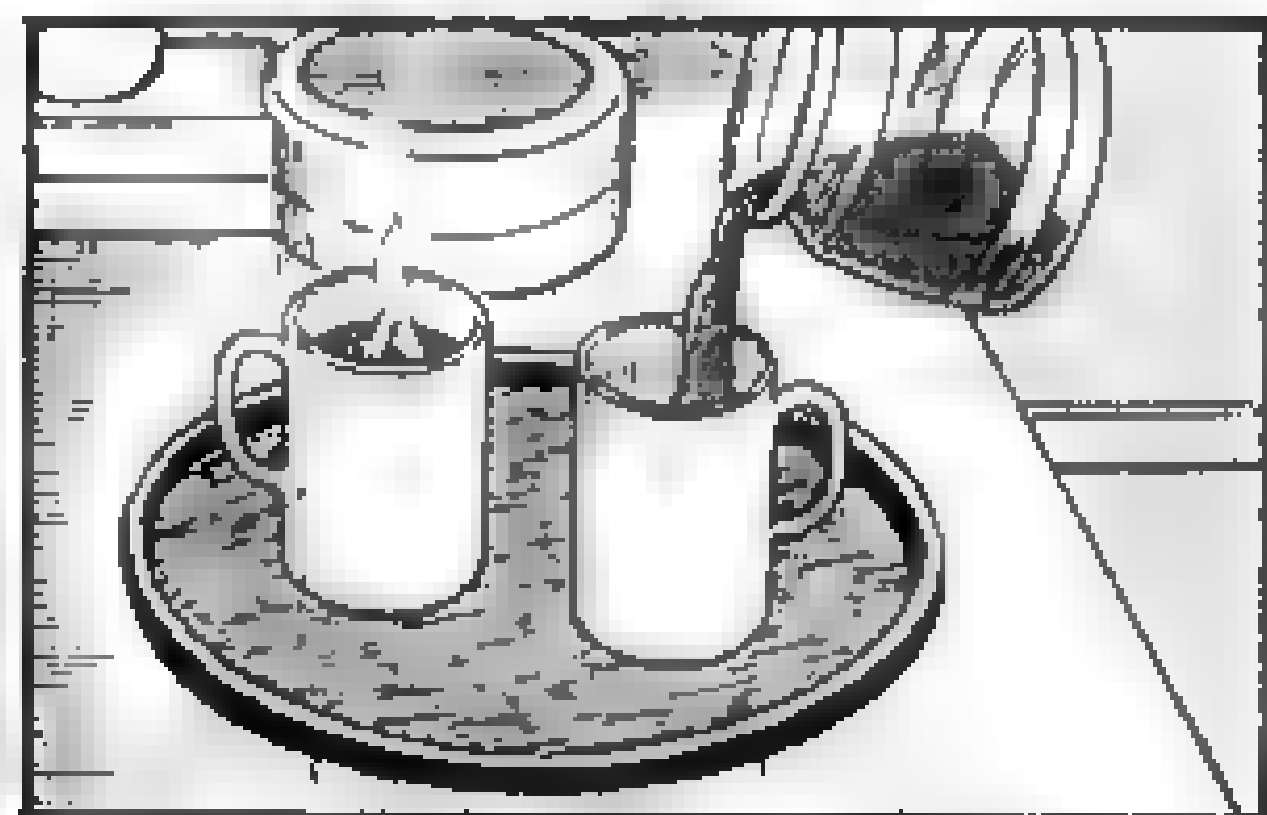
**EVEN  
NOW...IT'S  
COMING  
CLOSER...**

**IT'S  
GETTING  
STRONGER  
AND  
STRONGER!!**



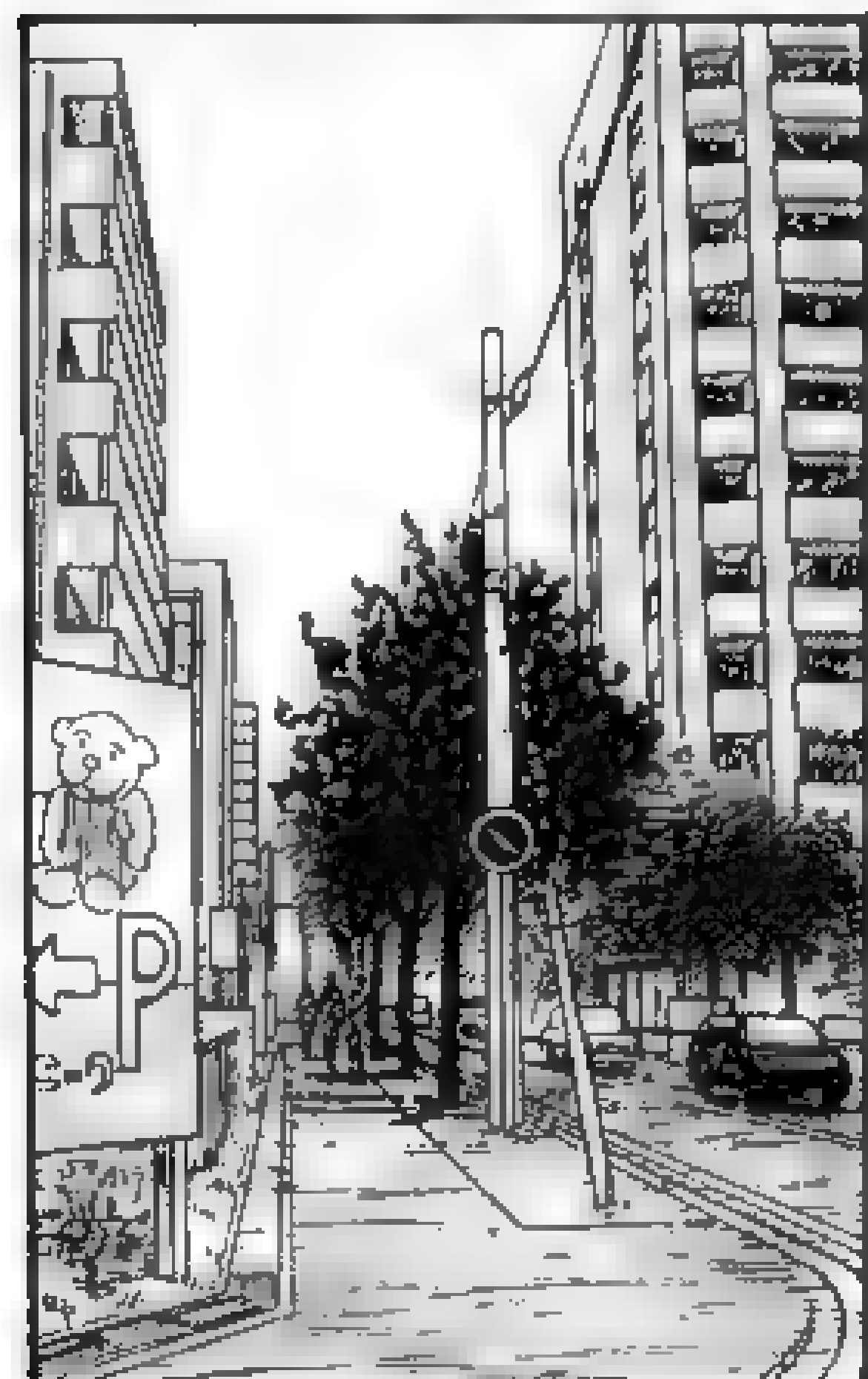
**I  
CAN  
SMELL  
IT...**

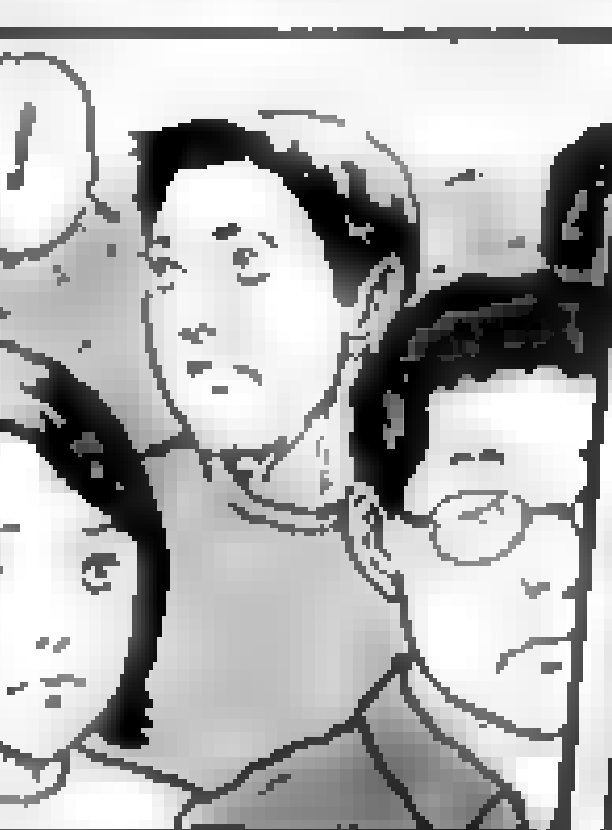
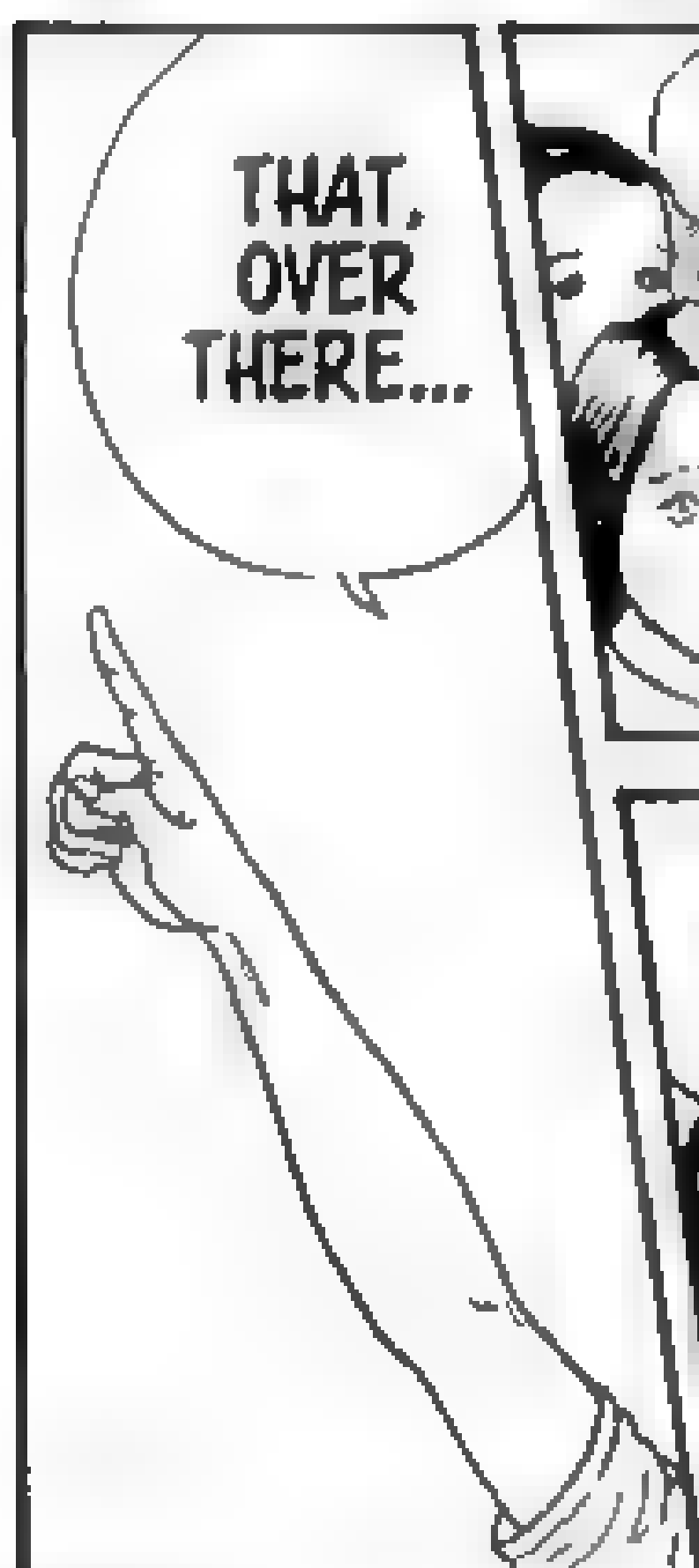
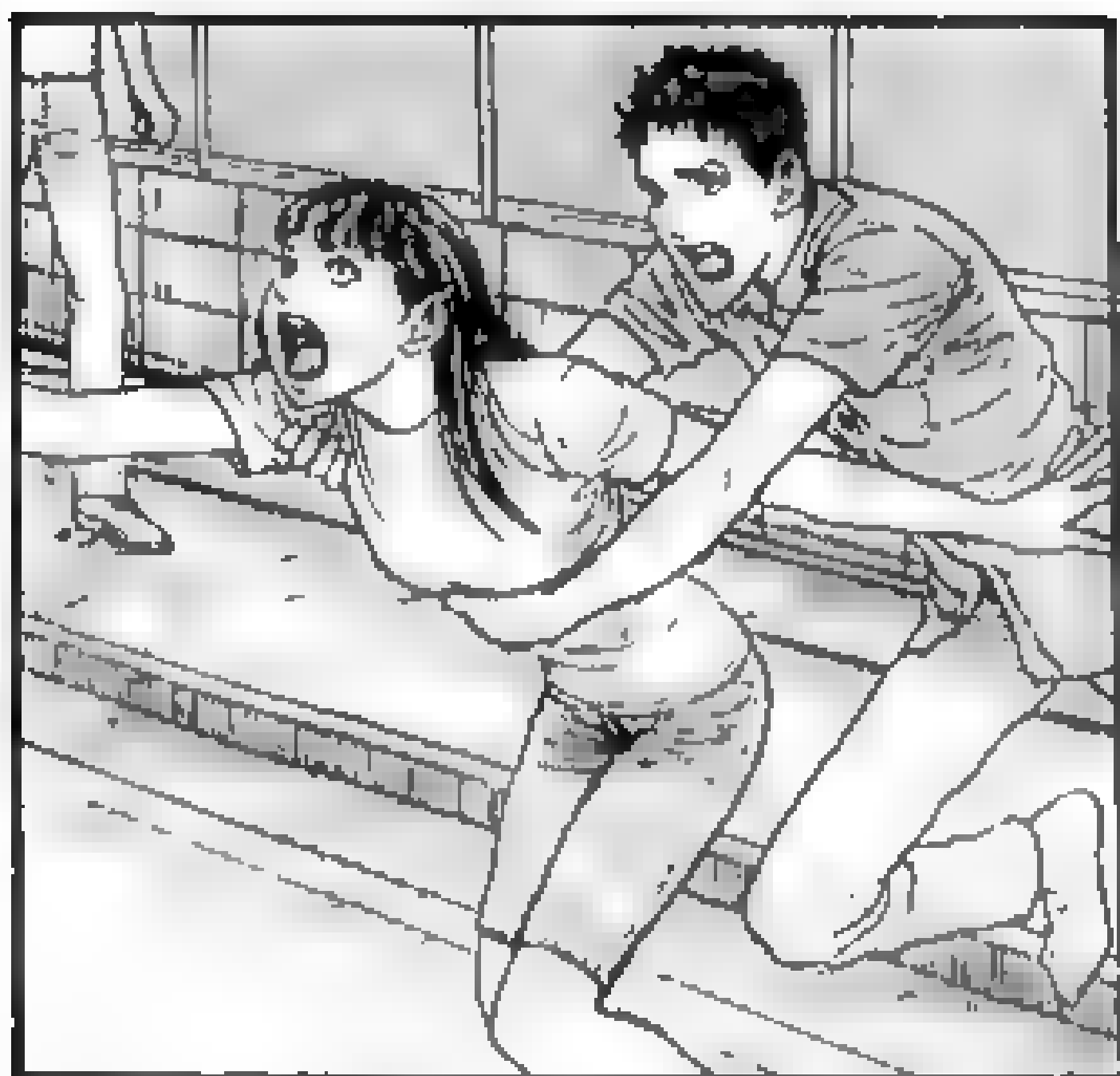
**I  
CAN  
SMELL  
...**



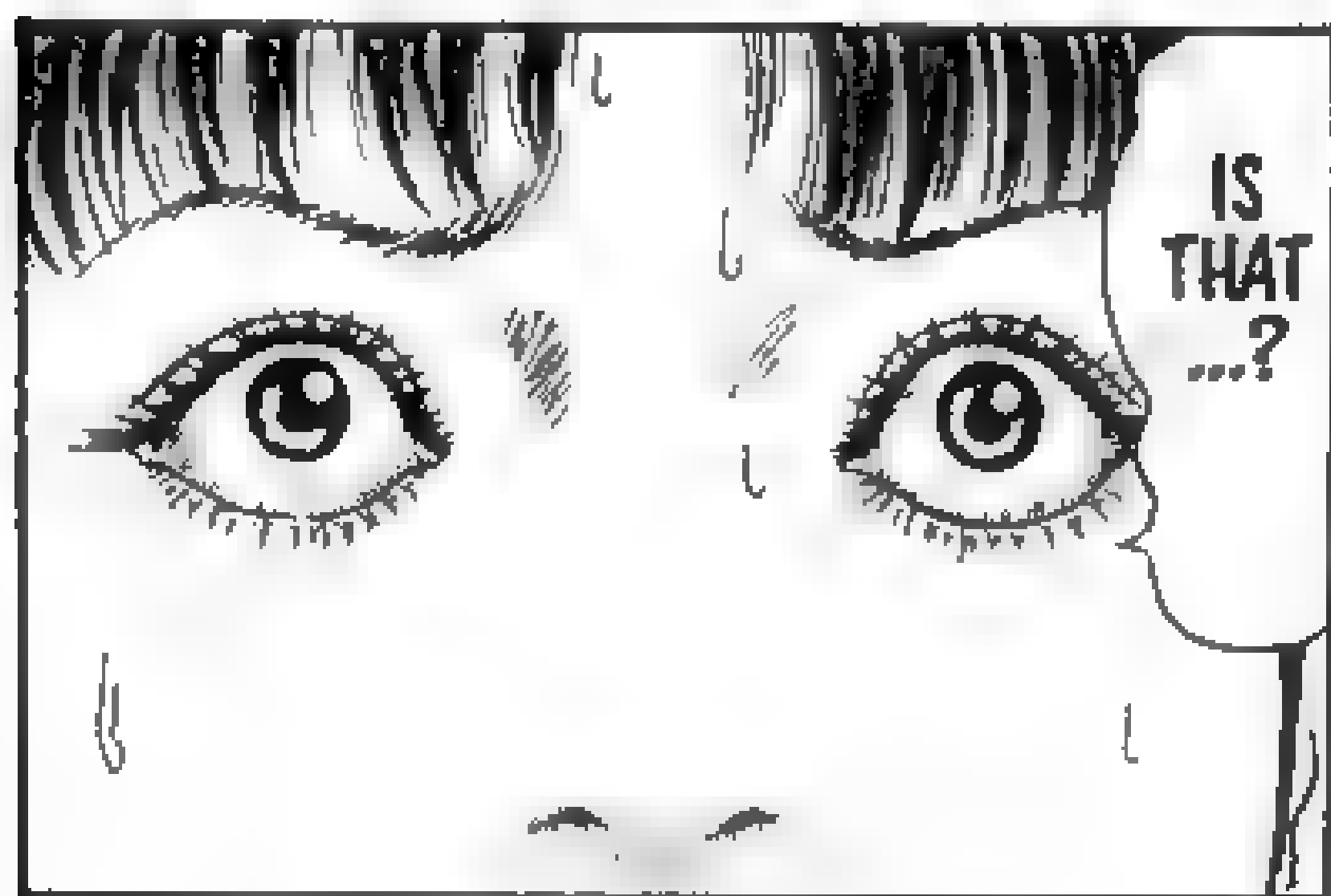
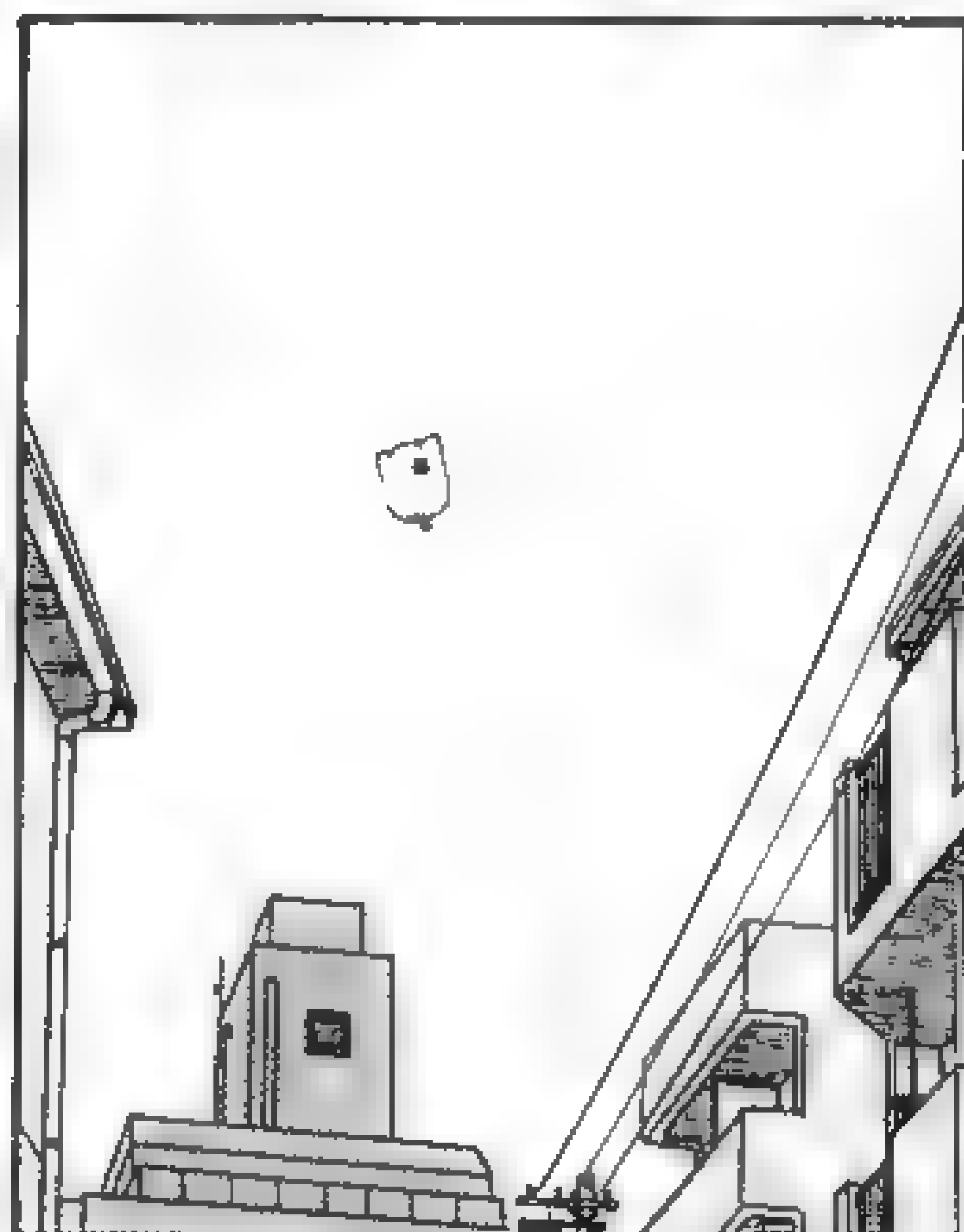
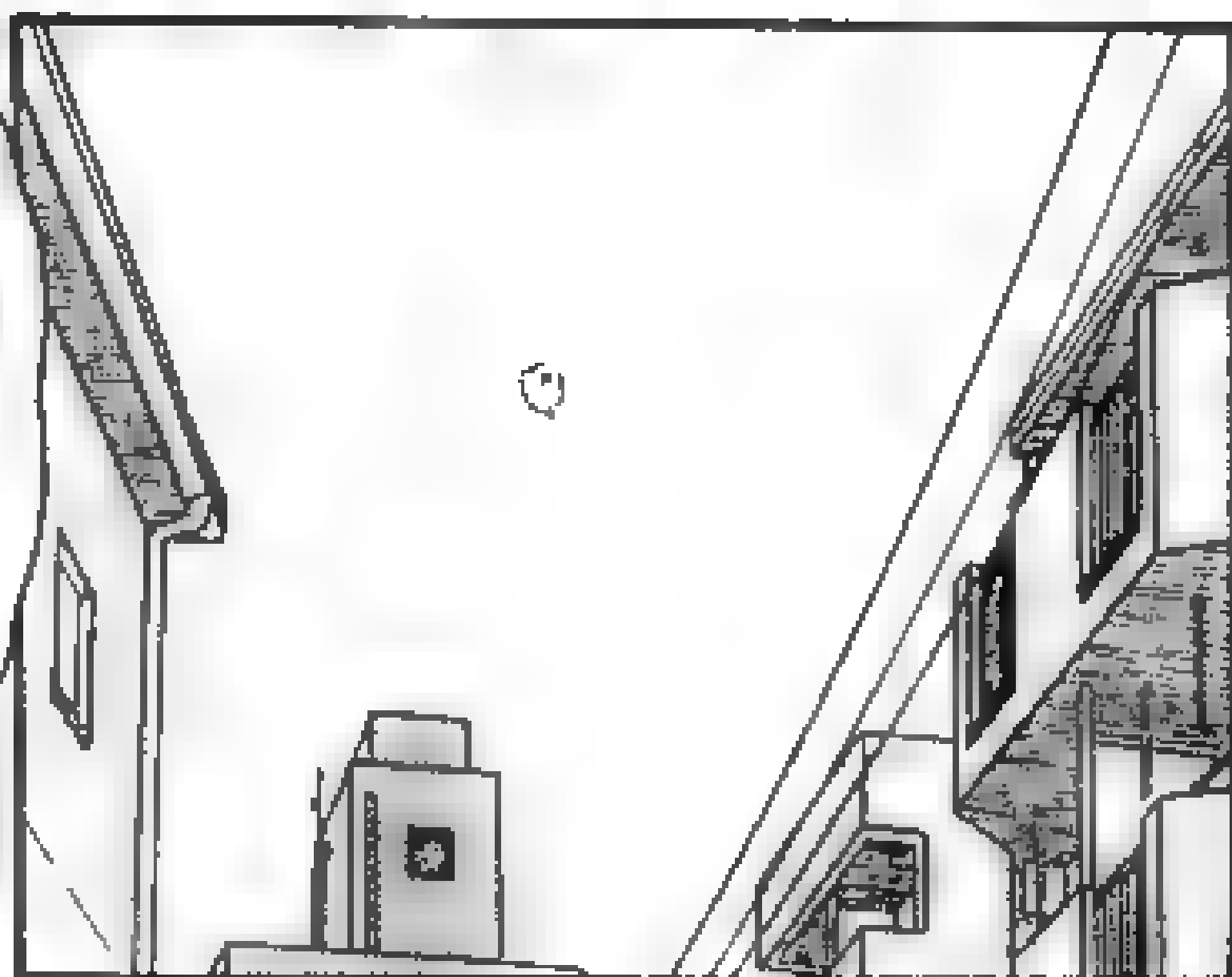
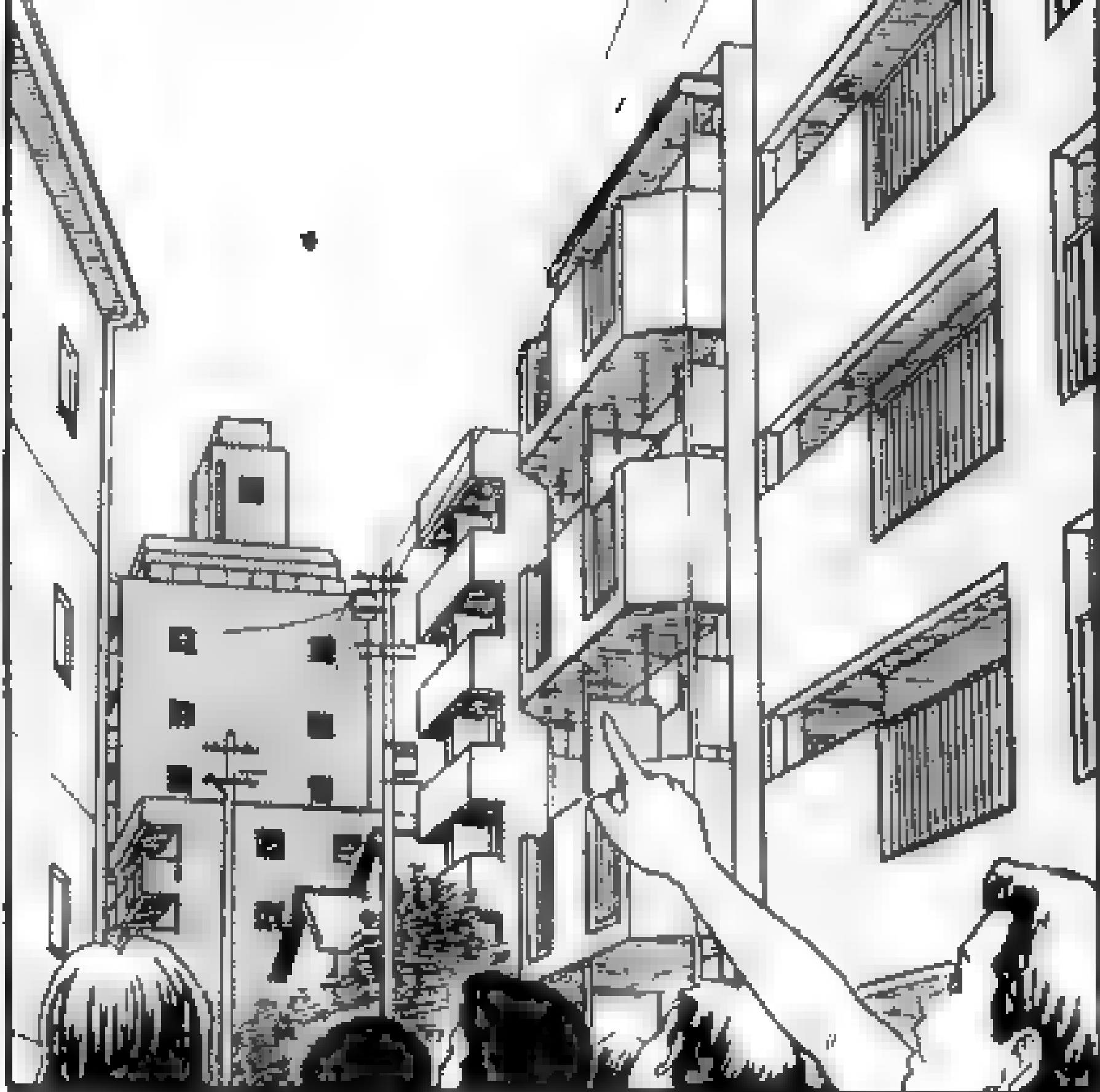
**DO  
YOU  
WANT  
A CUP  
OF  
COFFEE  
?**

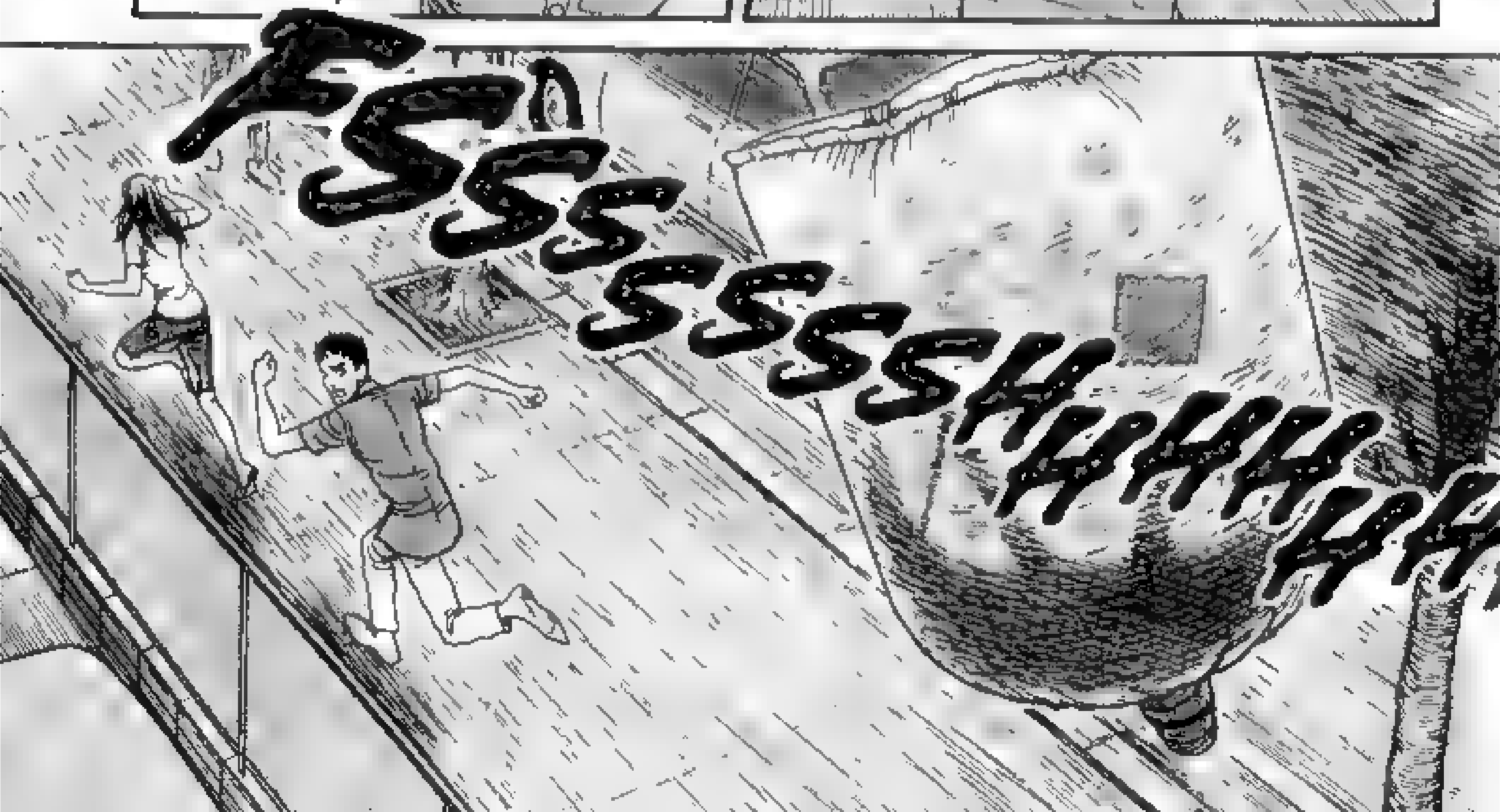
**HEY.**

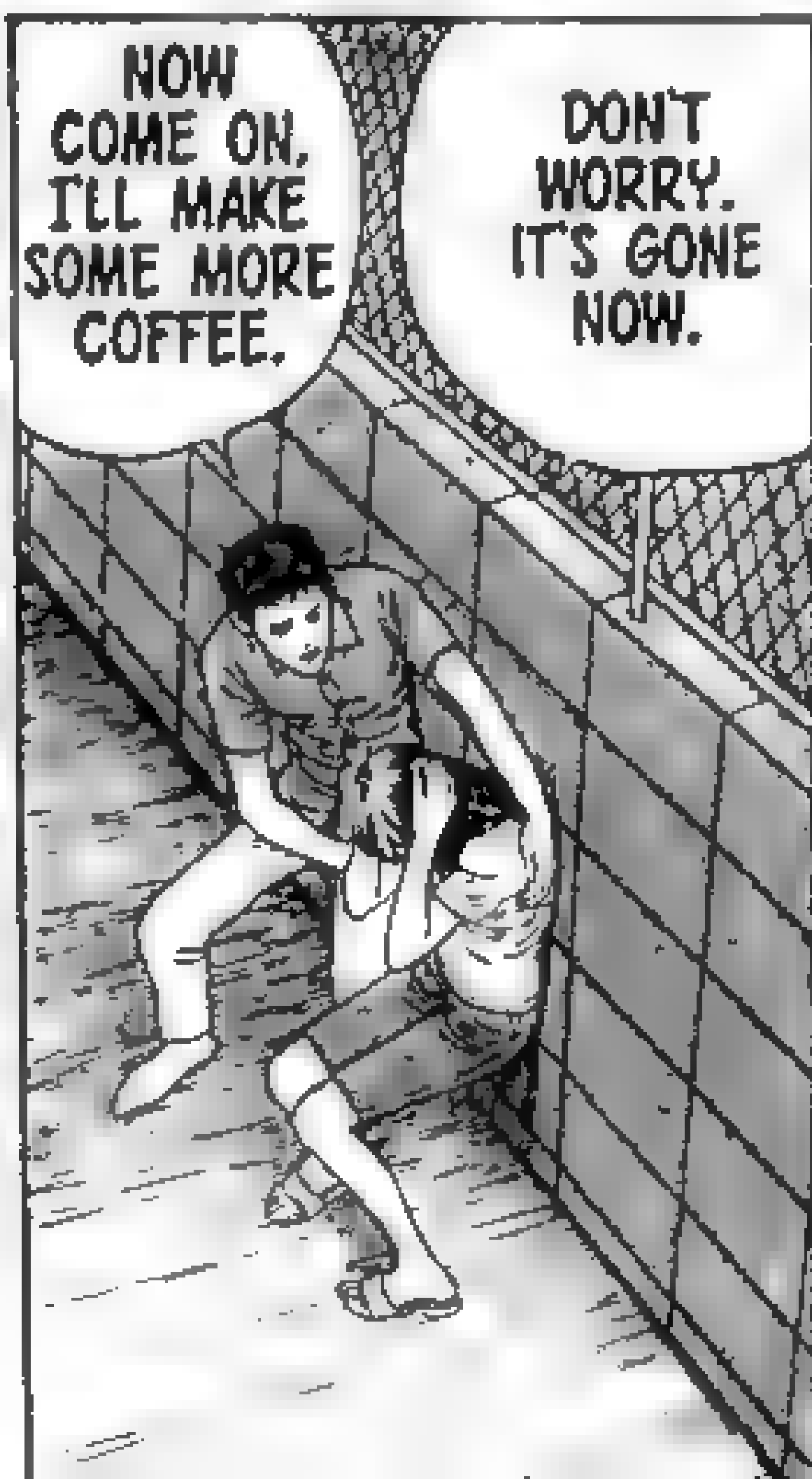
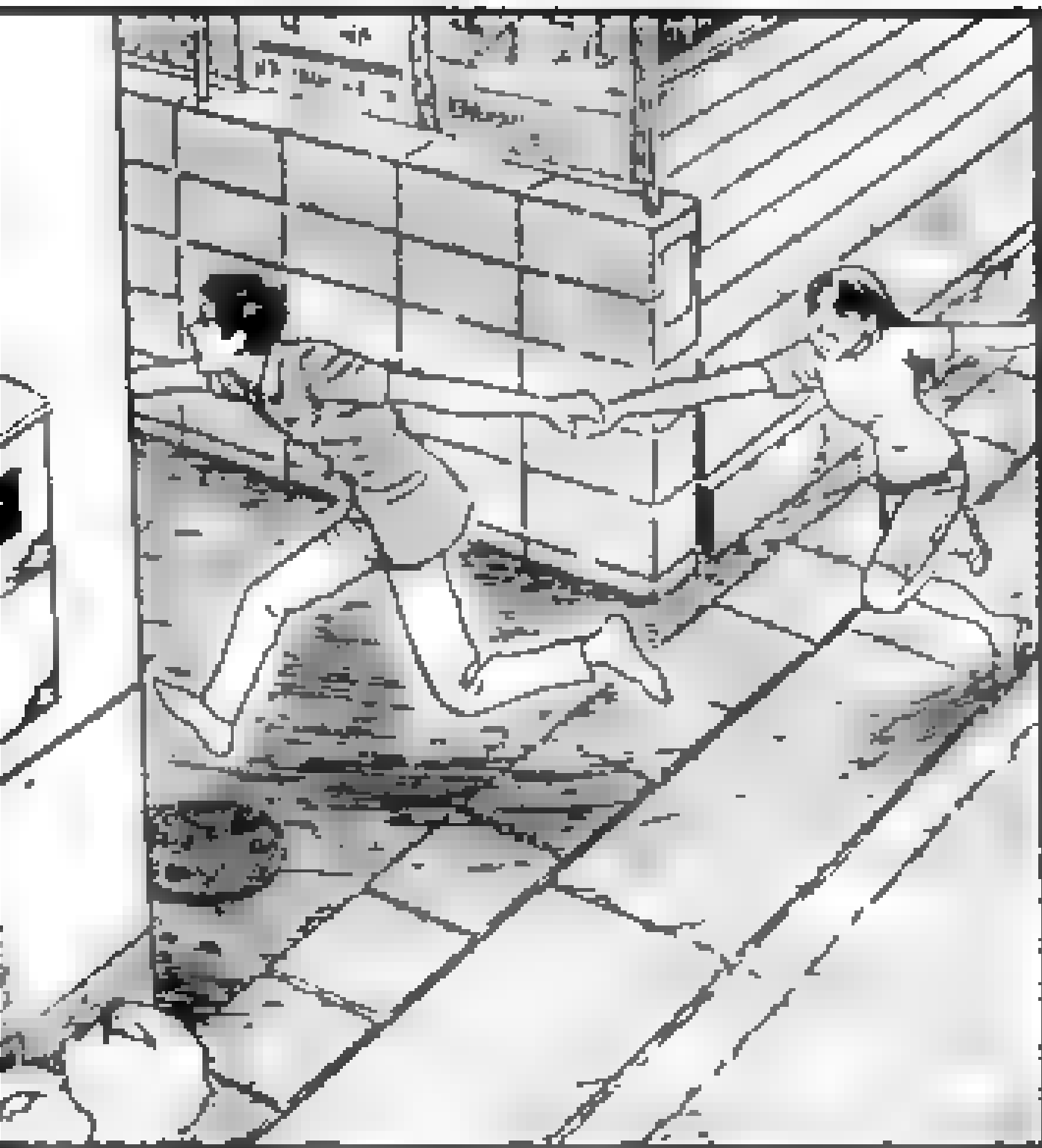
















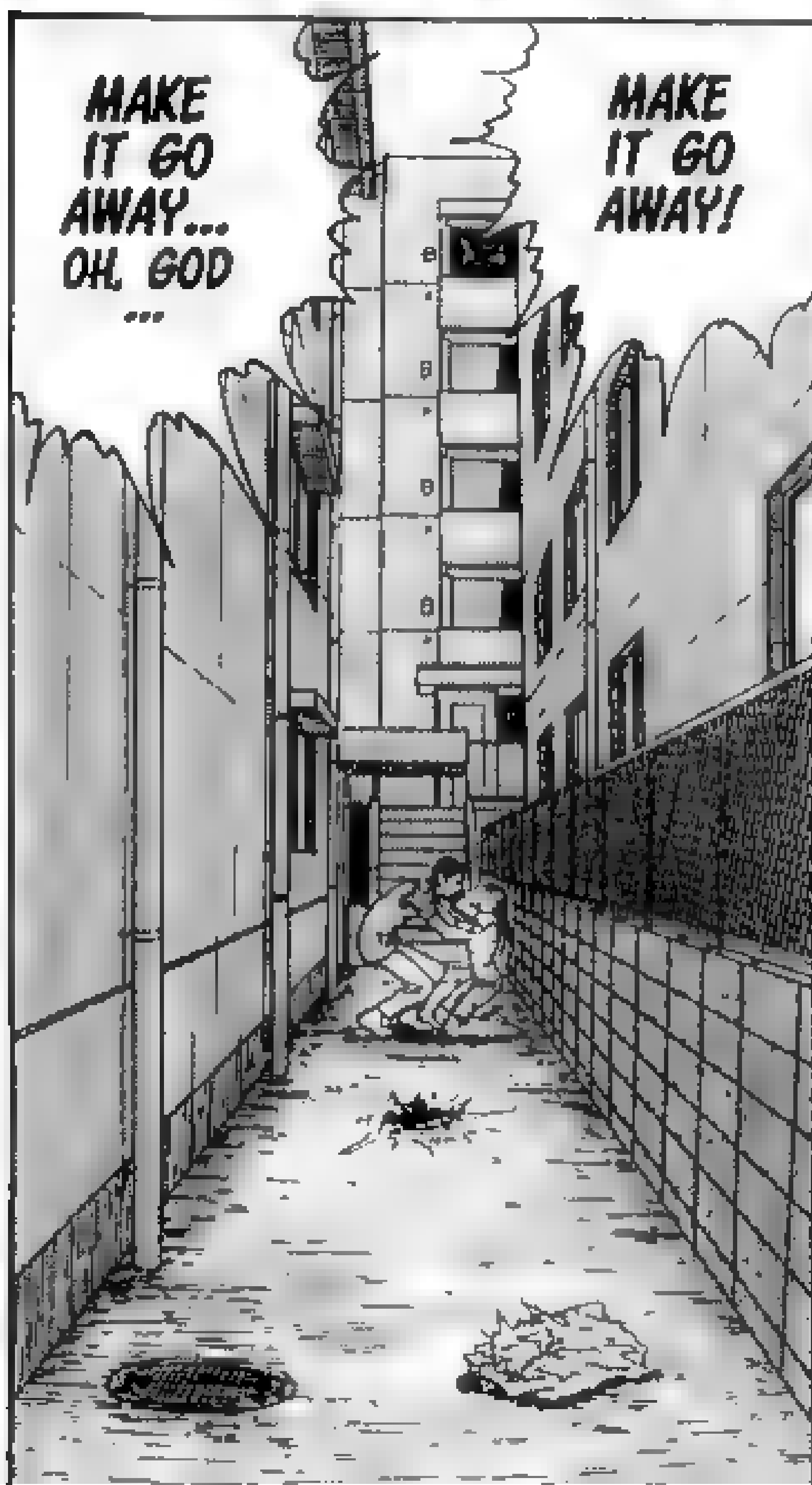
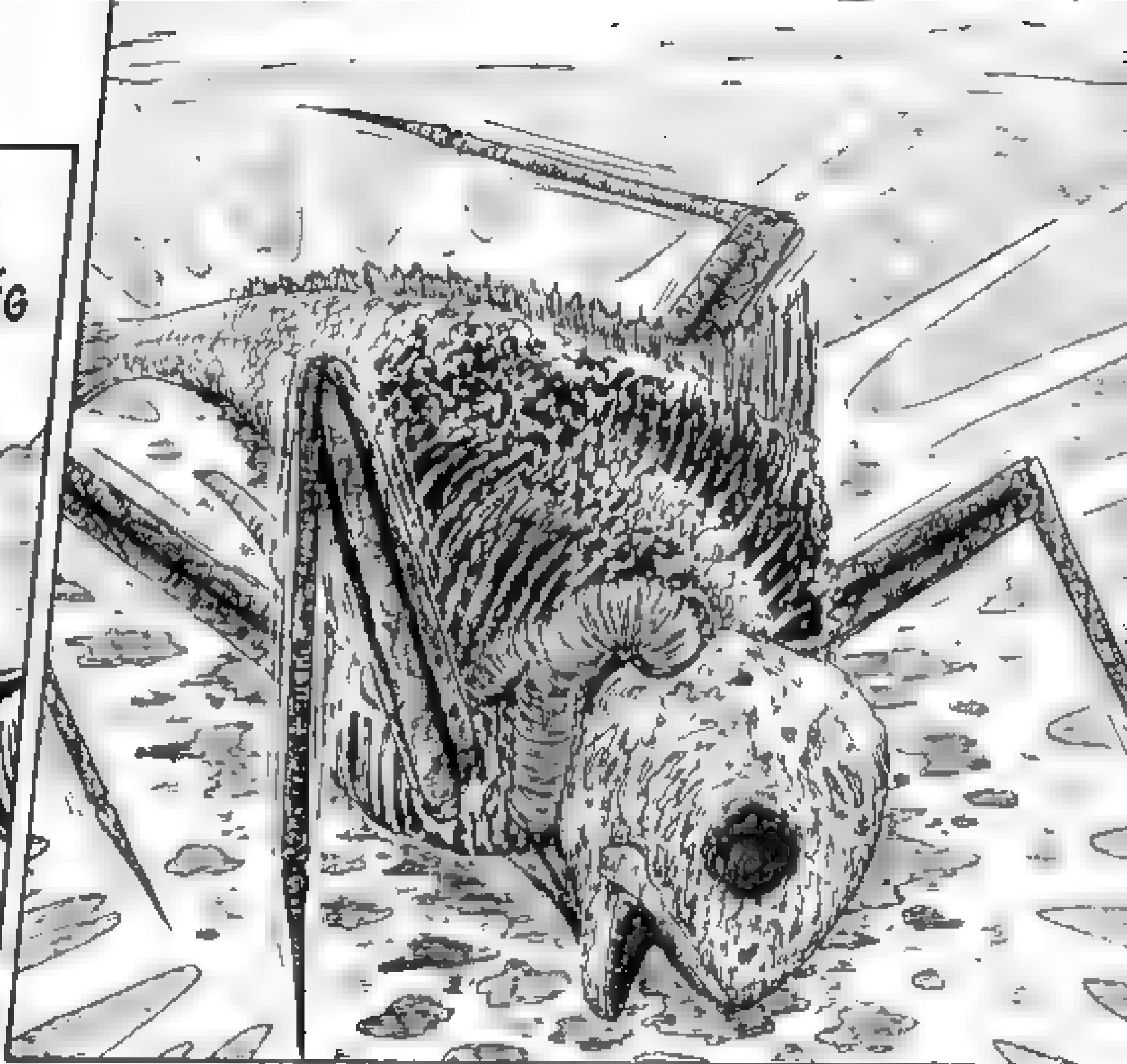
6/ The Death-  
stench Creeps





WHAT  
IS IT?  
IS IT  
REALLY  
A FISH  
?

IT'S  
STILL  
MOVING  
...



MAKE  
IT GO  
AWAY...  
OH, GOD  
...

MAKE  
IT GO  
AWAY!



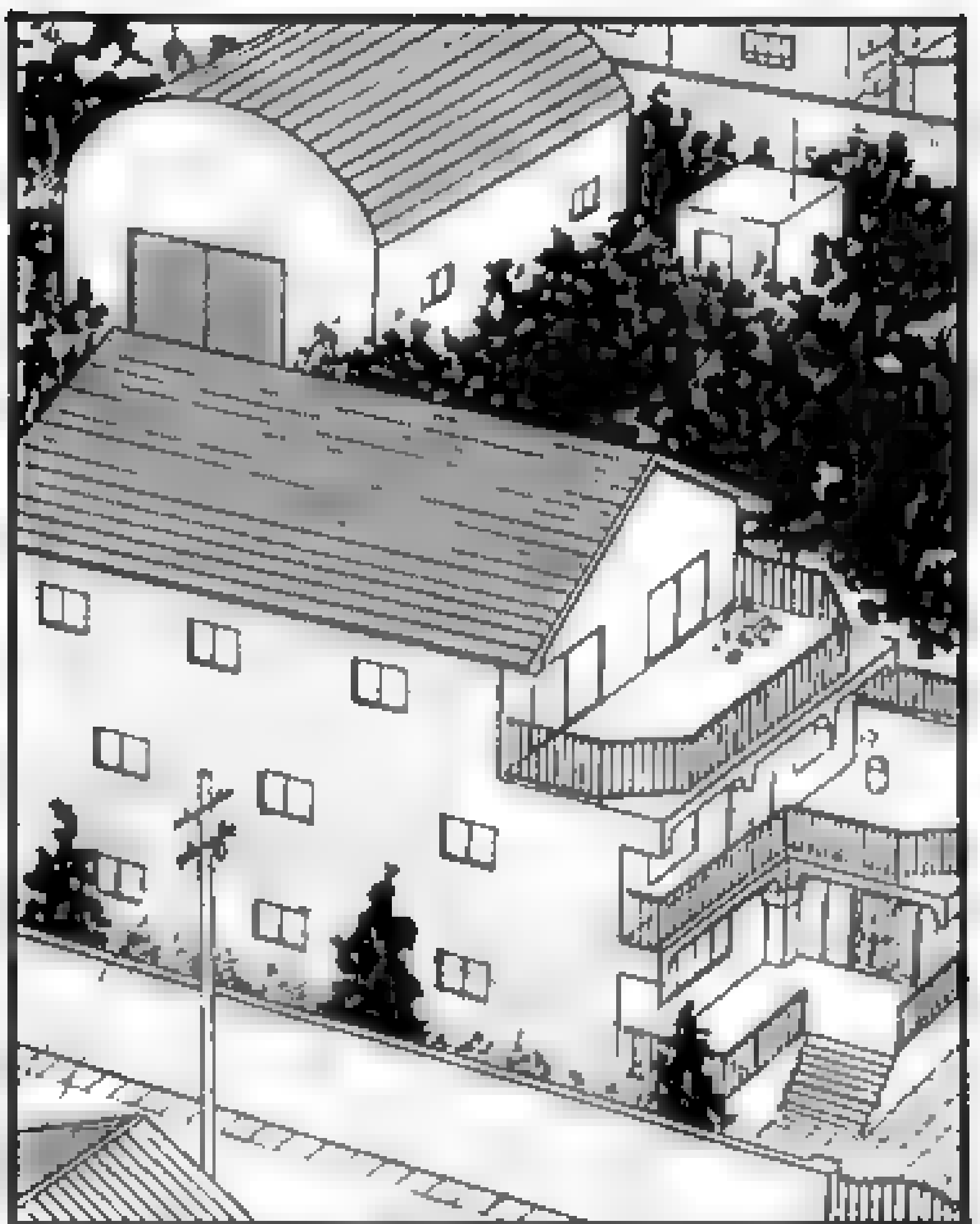
I-IT  
CAME  
AFTER  
US...



NO, IT  
WASN'T!  
OH...THIS  
SMELL. DO  
SOMETHING  
!!

N-NO...  
IT WAS  
JUST  
RANDOM  
...







WHAT'S THAT /?



THE BAG INFLATES AS SOON AS IT'S INSIDE.

YES...THAT'S WHAT'S SO WEIRD ABOUT IT.



ITS ODOR IS STILL LEAKING THROUGH.

...BUT IT STILL STINKS.



IT'S NOT AS TIGHT NOW...

IN OKINAWA IT BLEW UP EVEN TIGHTER UNTIL IT FLOATED UP IN THE AIR.



FWOMMM



...HH...



SNIP



UCK  
...

UGH!



WELL, YOU  
WEREN'T  
KIDDING  
ABOUT  
THE  
SMELL...



HM?  
OH...

WHAT  
IS IT,  
UNCLE?



TADASHI  
...

HAVE  
YOU EVER  
SMELLED  
A  
HUMAN  
CORPSE?



THE  
SAME  
ODOR  
?

WHAT  
?



I  
ENCOUN-  
TERED  
THIS  
ODOR  
ONCE  
IN THE  
PAST...

...



IT WAS MY FATHER.

IN FACT ...



YES... I HAVE.

HAVE YOU?



UH... NO, I HAVEN'T ...



HE WAS SUCH A WORK-AHOLIC HE HARDLY EVER CAME HOME.

SEVERAL DECADES AGO, MY FATHER HAD A PRIVATE WORK-ROOM...SORT OF A FACTORY.



...



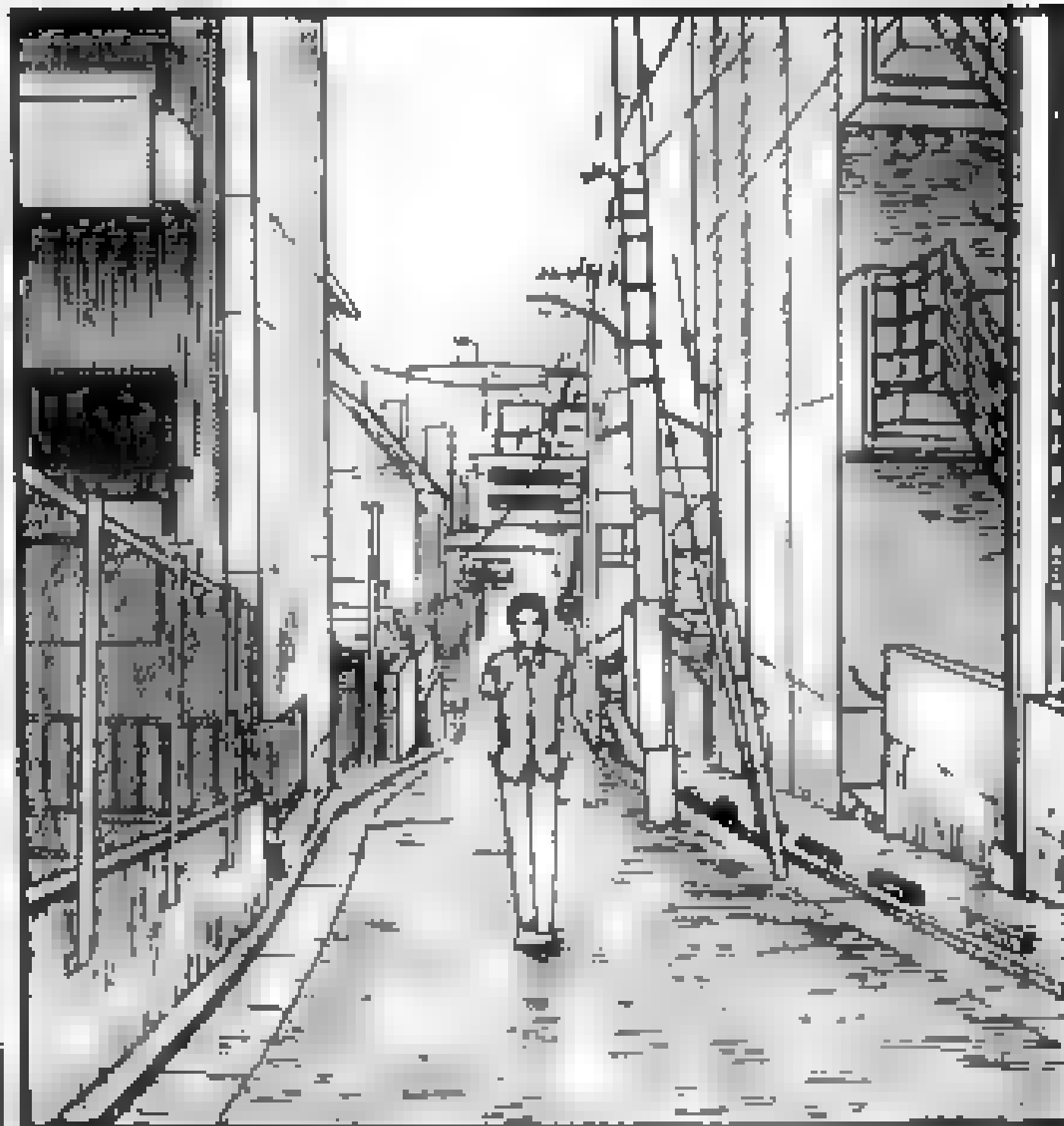
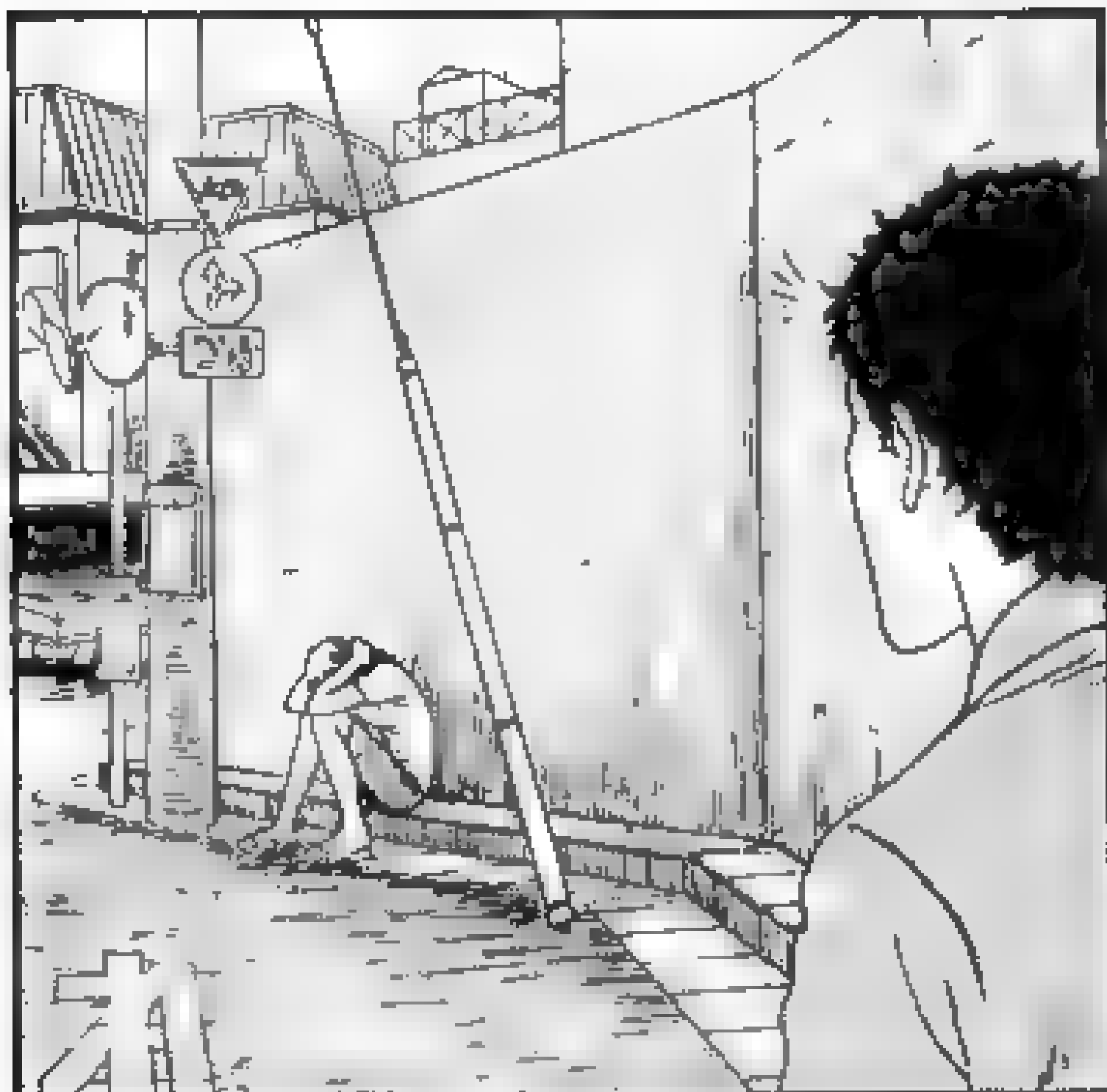
...I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THE CONTENTS OF THIS BAG.

I'M SORRY... NEVER MIND ALL THAT...

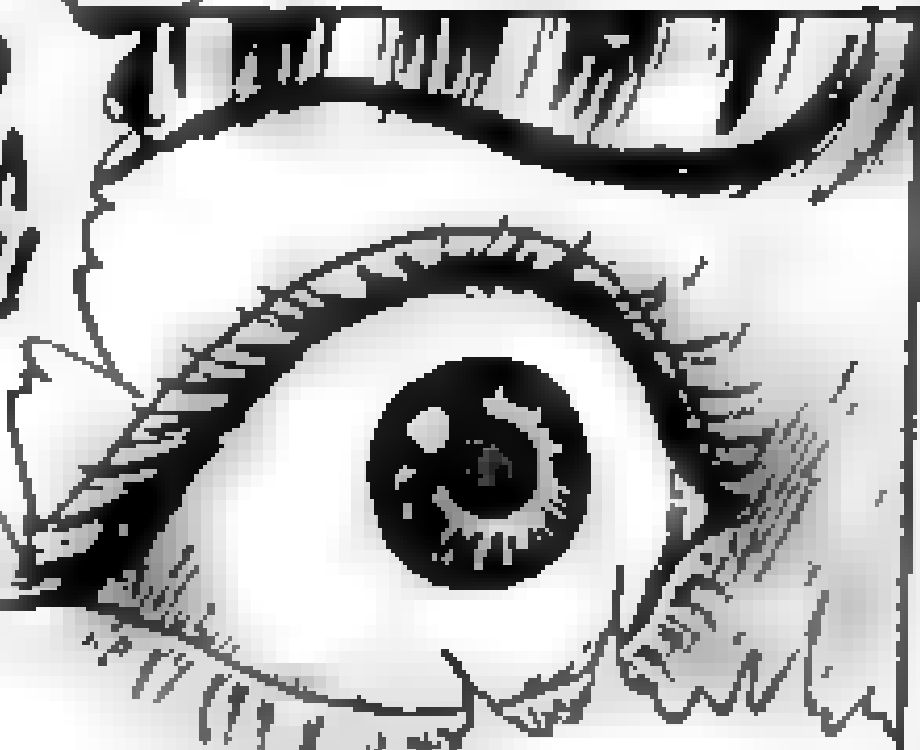


IT HAPPENED DURING A HOT SUMMER.

HE WAS AT THE FACTORY WHEN HE DIED OF A HEART ATTACK, SO HE WASN'T DISCOVERED FOR A WHILE.



**FIND  
THEM  
NOW!**



**AND  
GET  
RID OF  
THEM!!**

**DON'T  
YOU GET  
IT?!  
THEY'RE  
ALREADY  
HERE!**



**NO!!  
I KNOW  
THEY'RE  
ALL  
AROUND  
US!**

**MY DE-  
LUSIONS...  
"MY DE-  
LUSIONS"...  
ALWAYS  
PATRON-  
IZING ME**



**I CAN'T  
DEAL  
WITH YOUR  
DELUSIONS!  
THERE IS  
NO SMELL!  
WE'RE  
GOING  
HOME.**



**KAORI...  
ENOUGH!!**

**BEHIND  
THE  
DRAWERS  
...UNDER  
THE  
BED...**



**NO...  
I'M SURE  
THEY'RE  
IN OUR  
ROOM.**



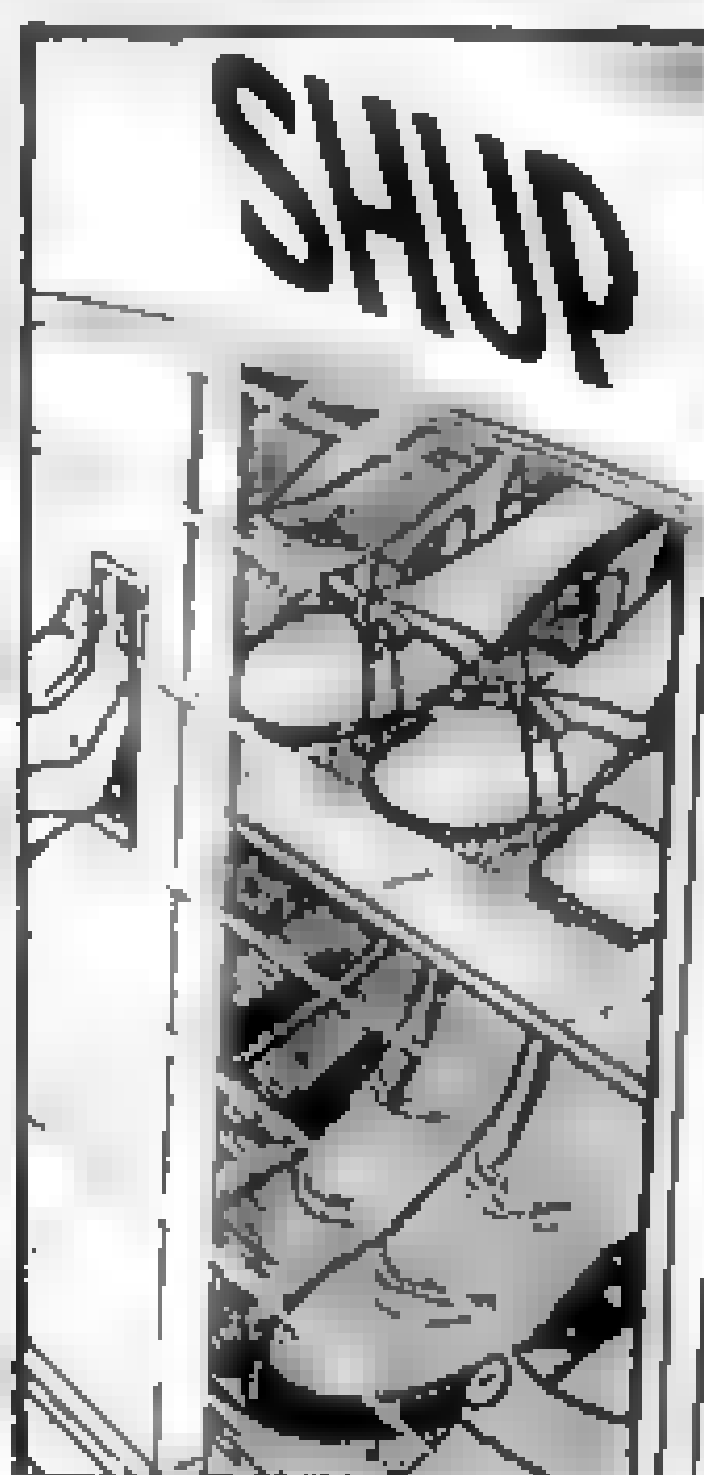
**COME  
ON.**



I'LL WATCH FROM HERE.



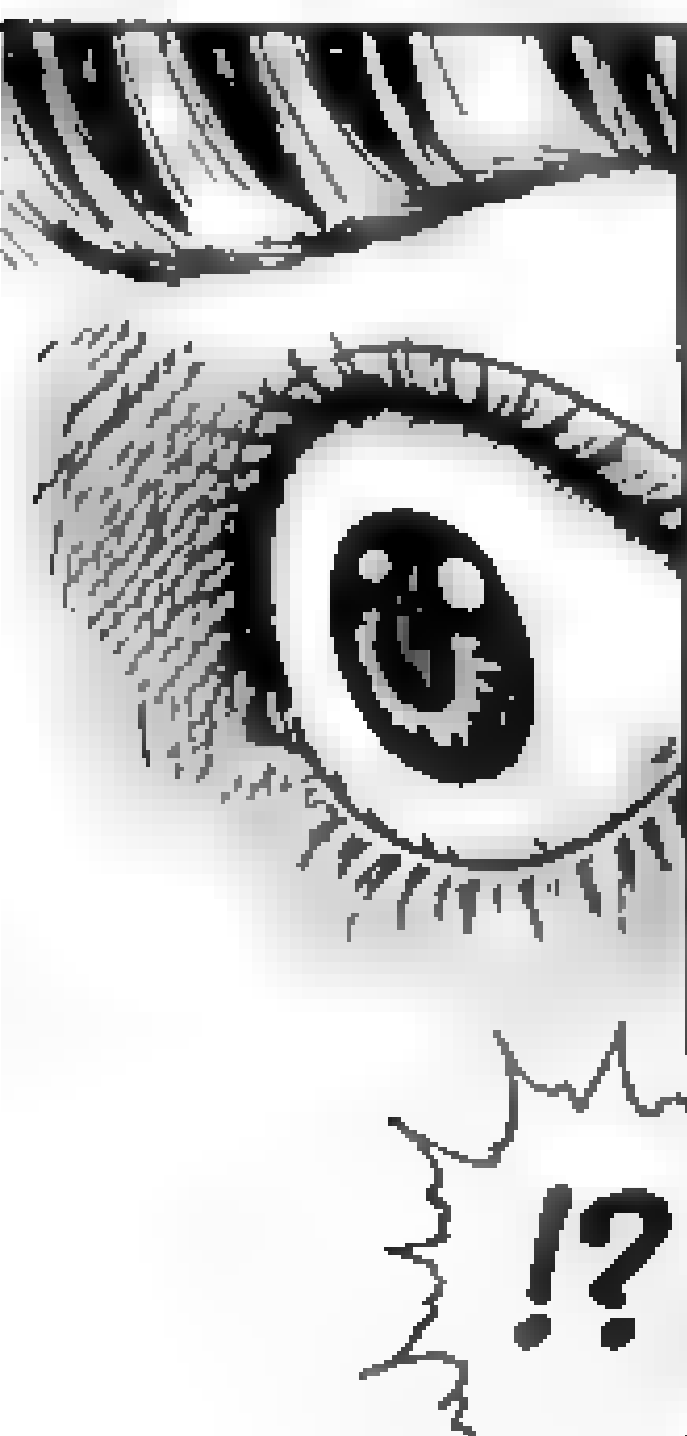
ALL RIGHT, I'LL HAVE A LOOK.



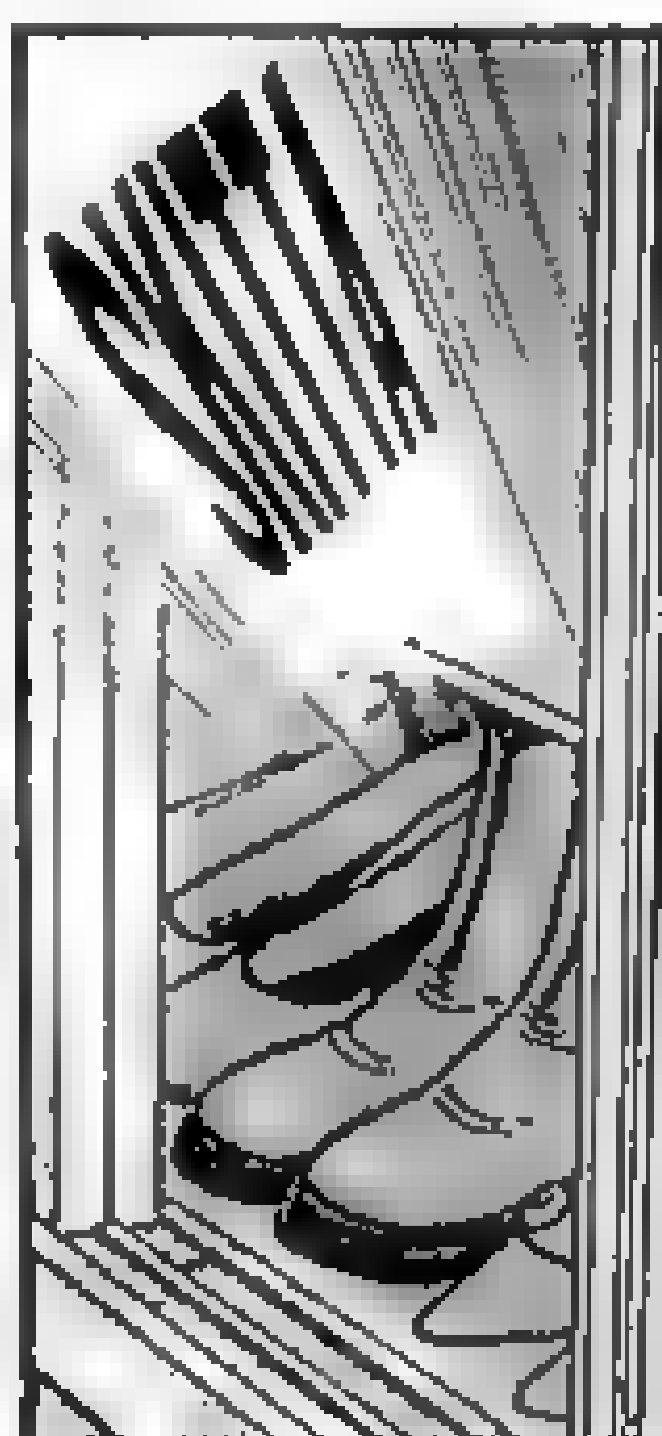
SHUP



FIRST, THE SHOE CABINET.



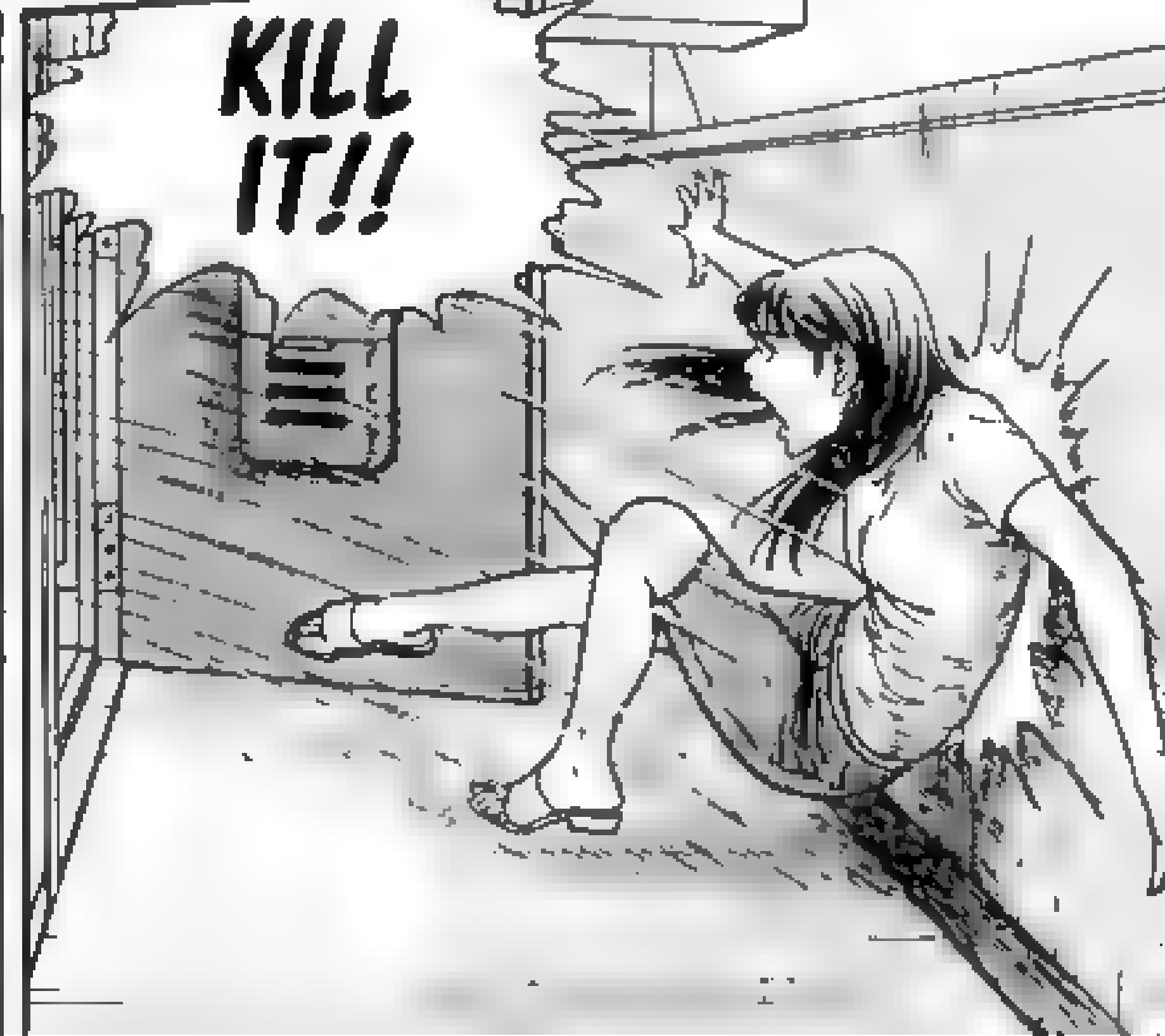
!?



THERE'S NOTHING HERE.

SEE ?







WHAT  
!?



YOU  
WERE  
WRONG.

SHUT  
UP.



I  
TOLD  
YOU  
SO!!

SEE  
?!

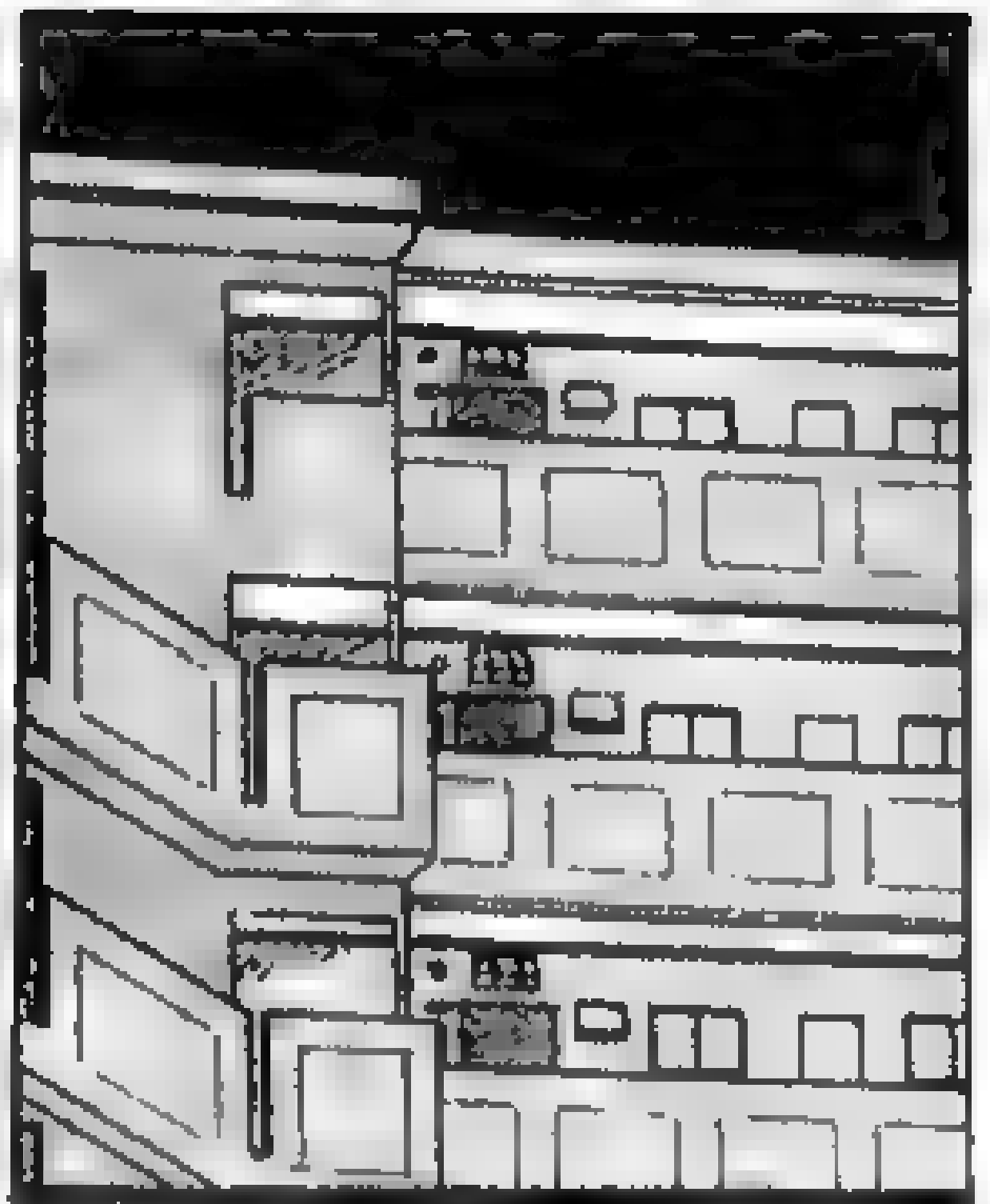


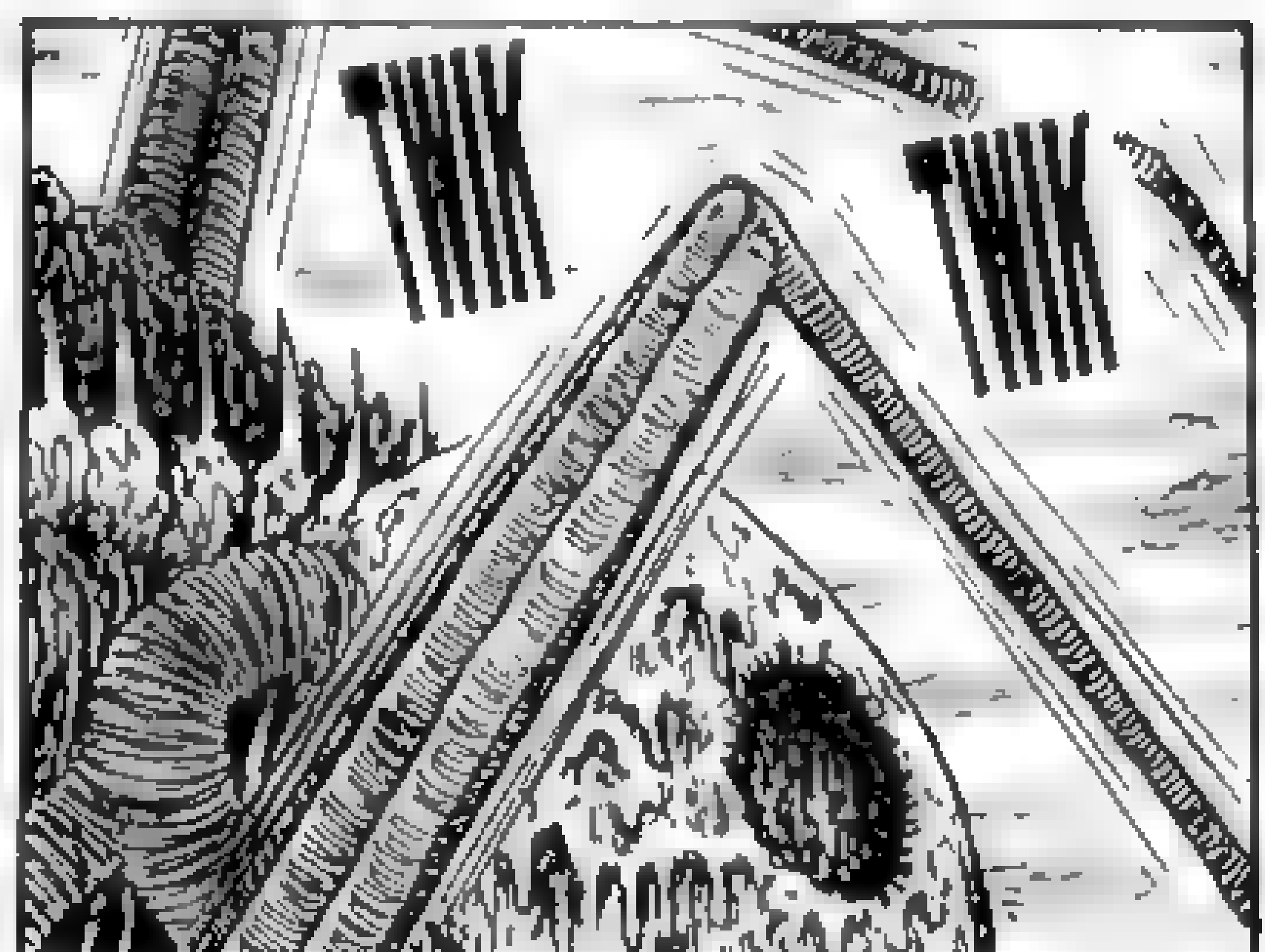
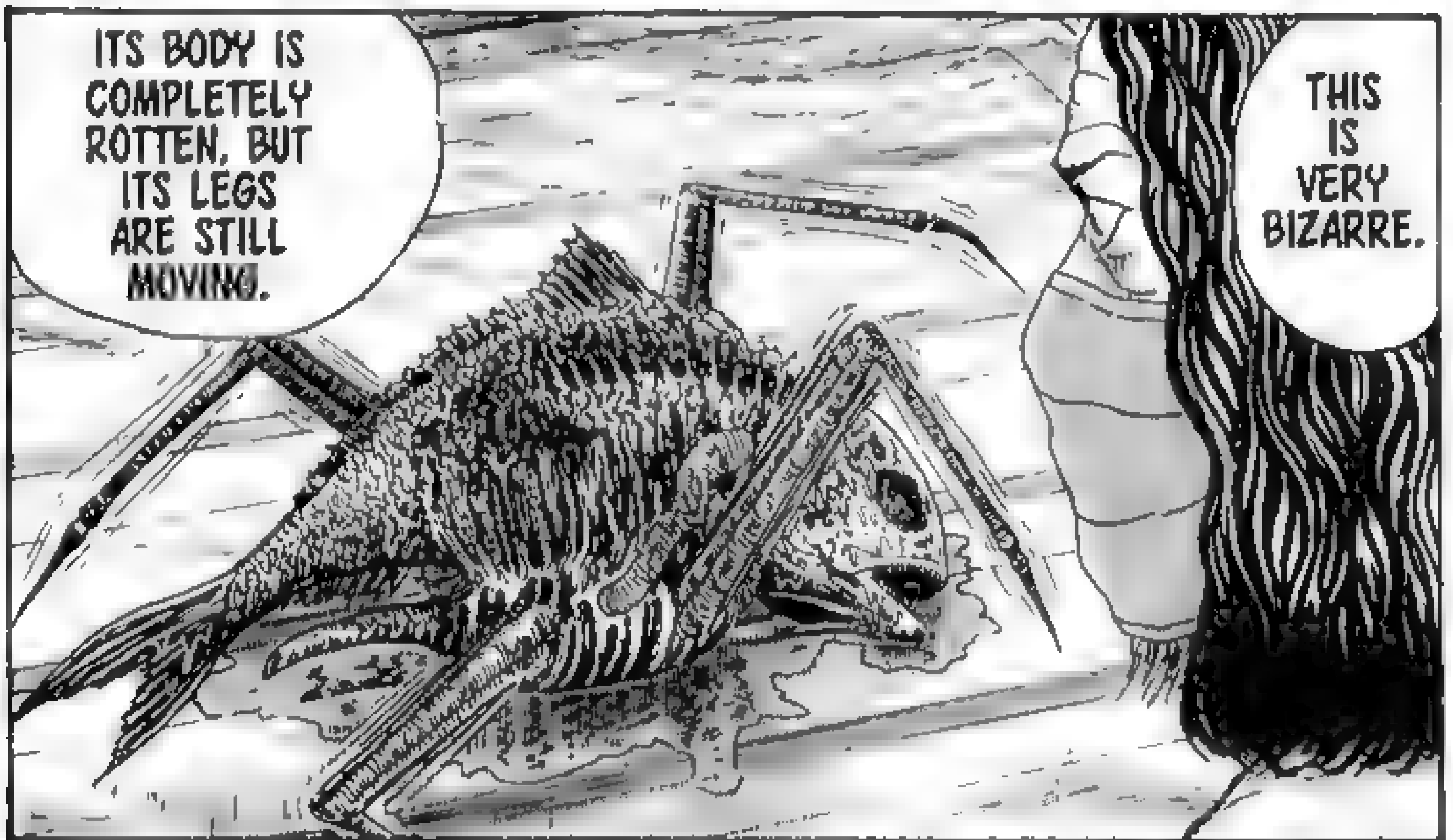
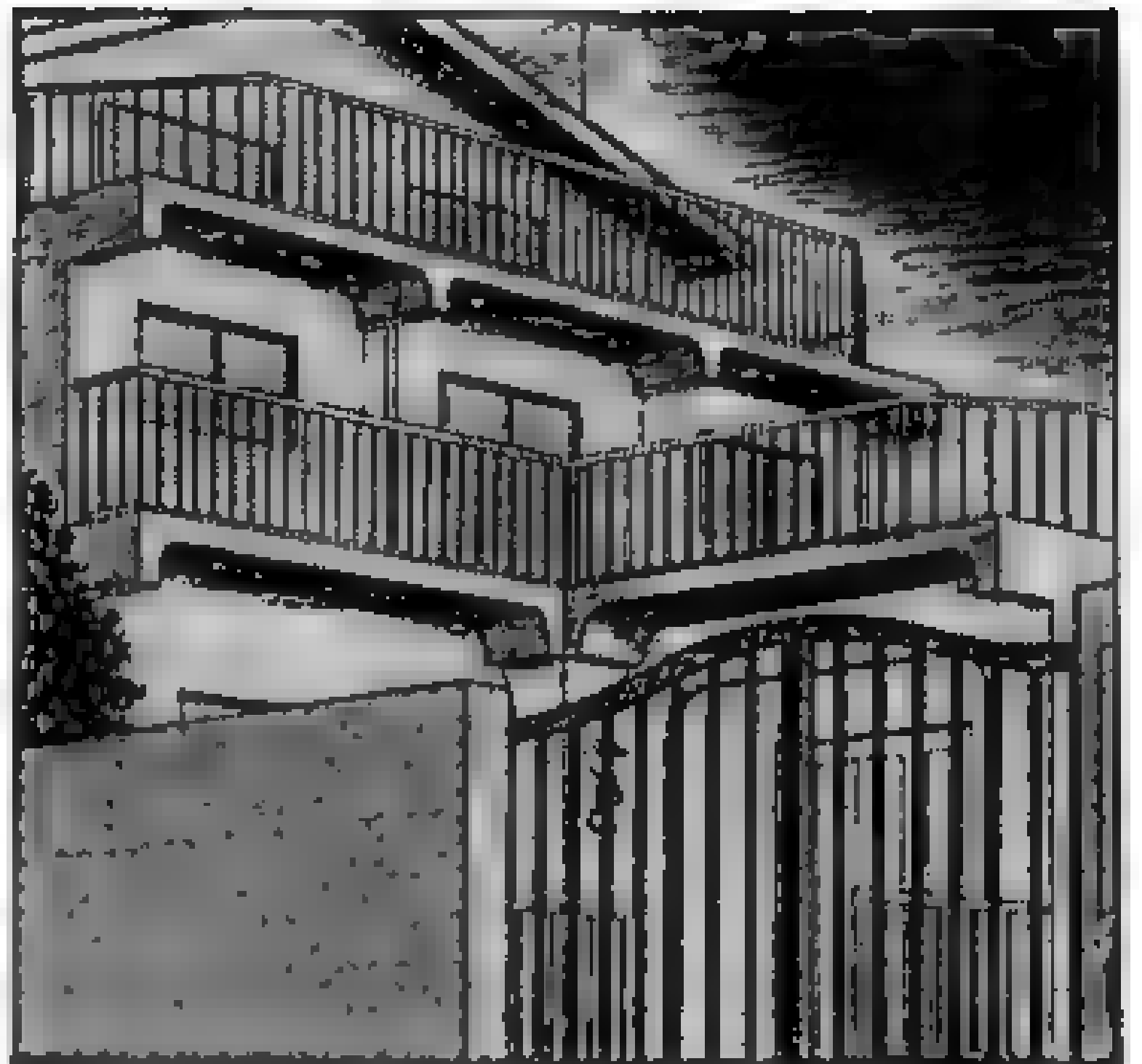
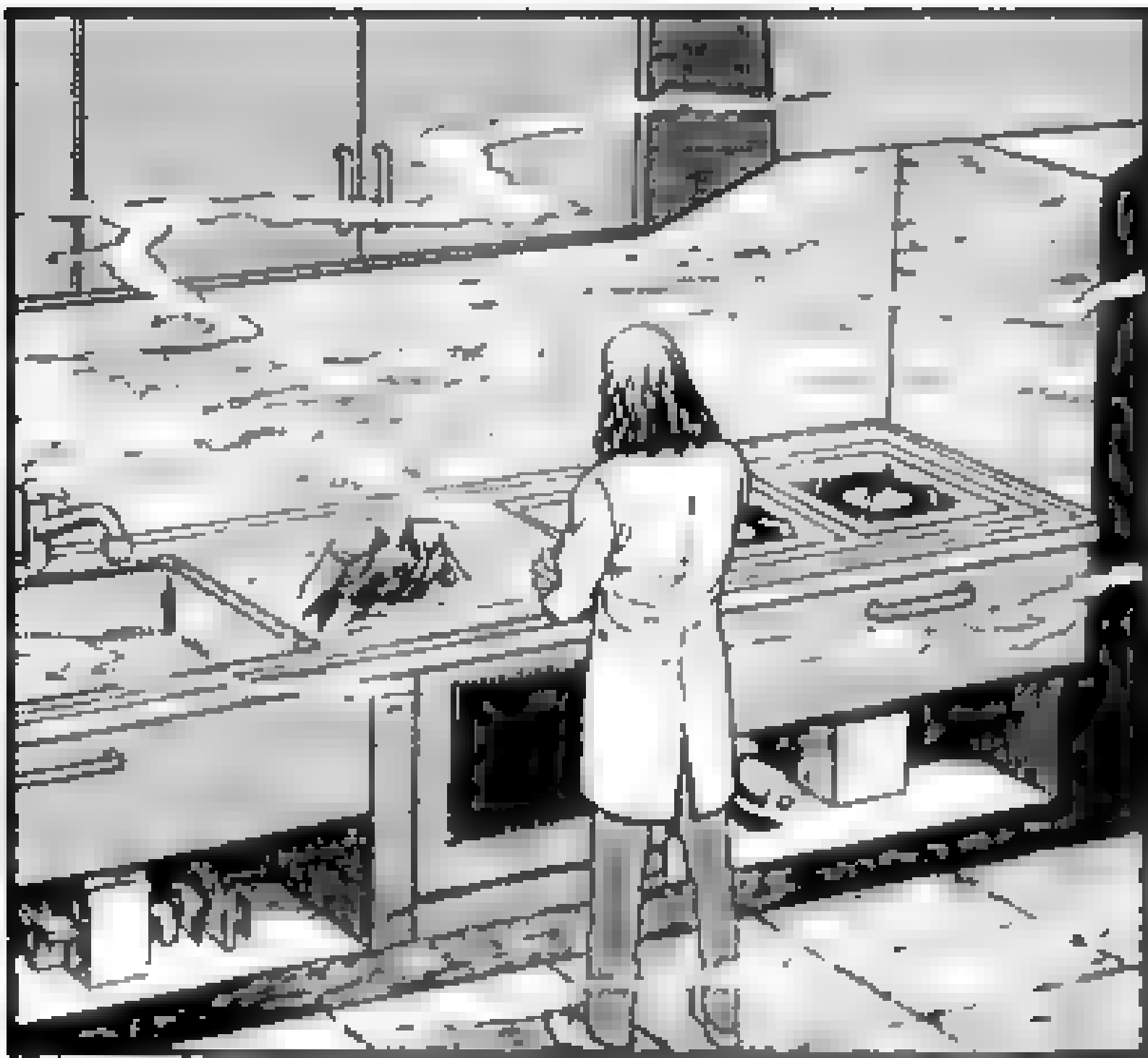
YOU'RE  
IMAGINING  
THINGS.

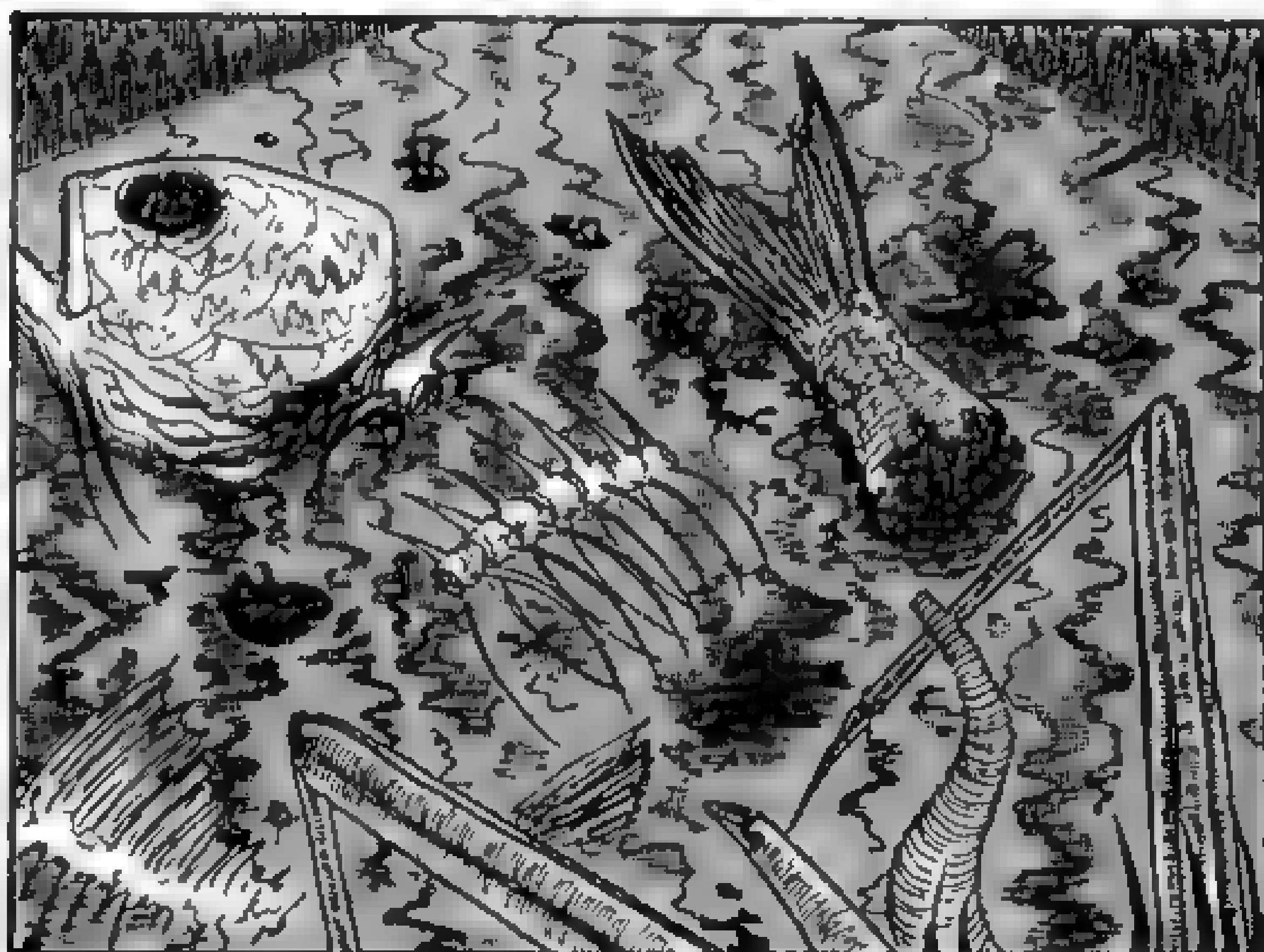
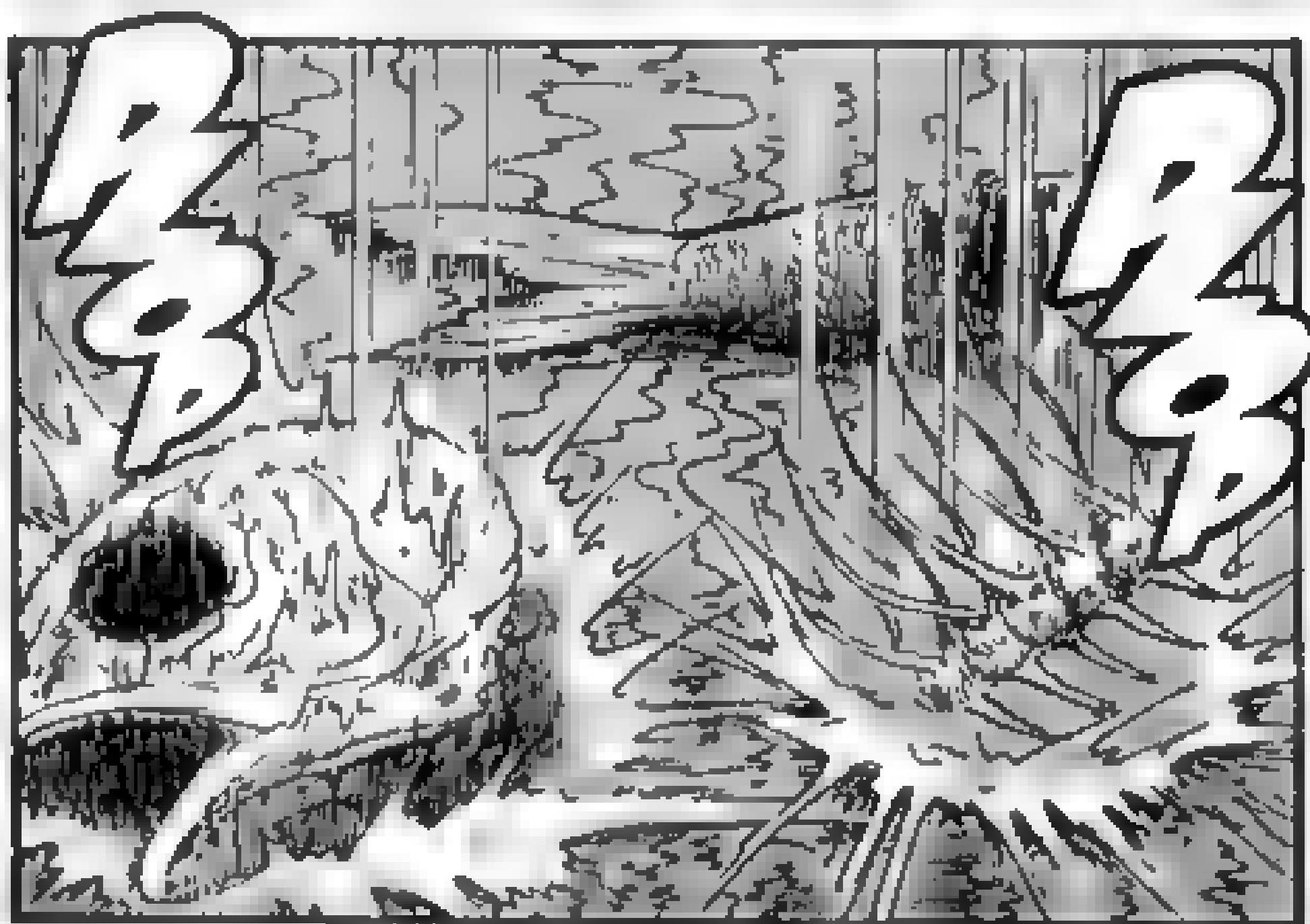
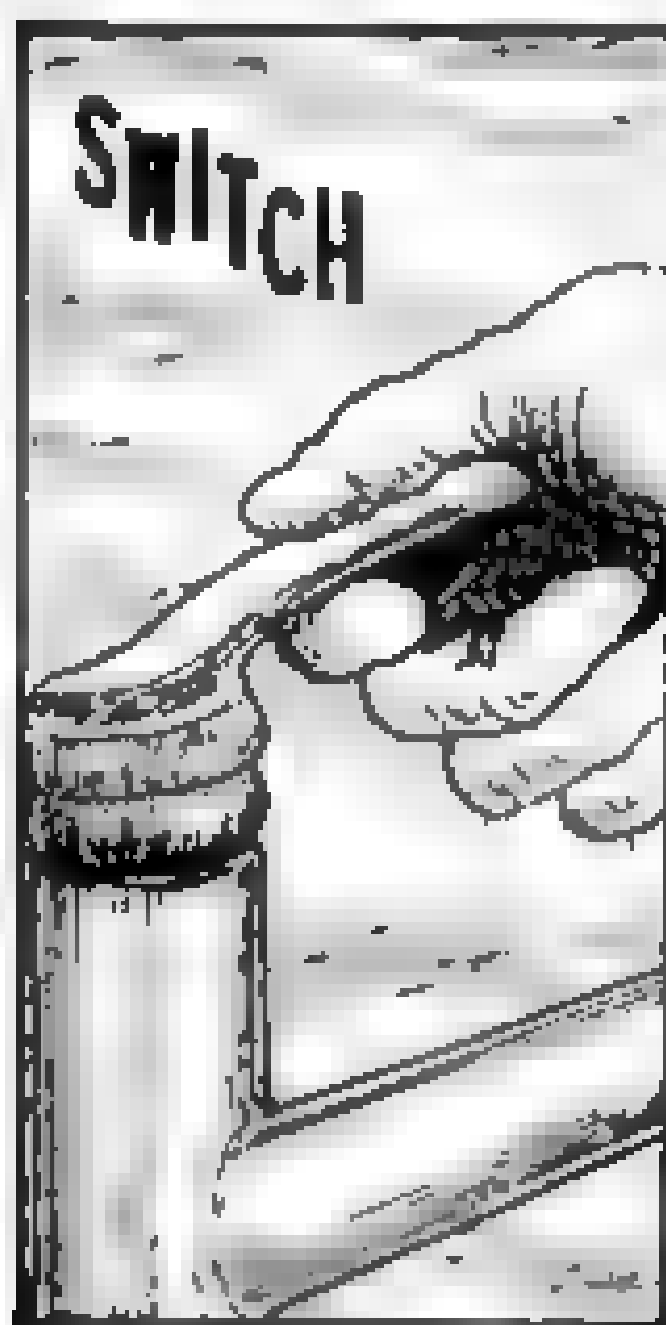
SEE  
?

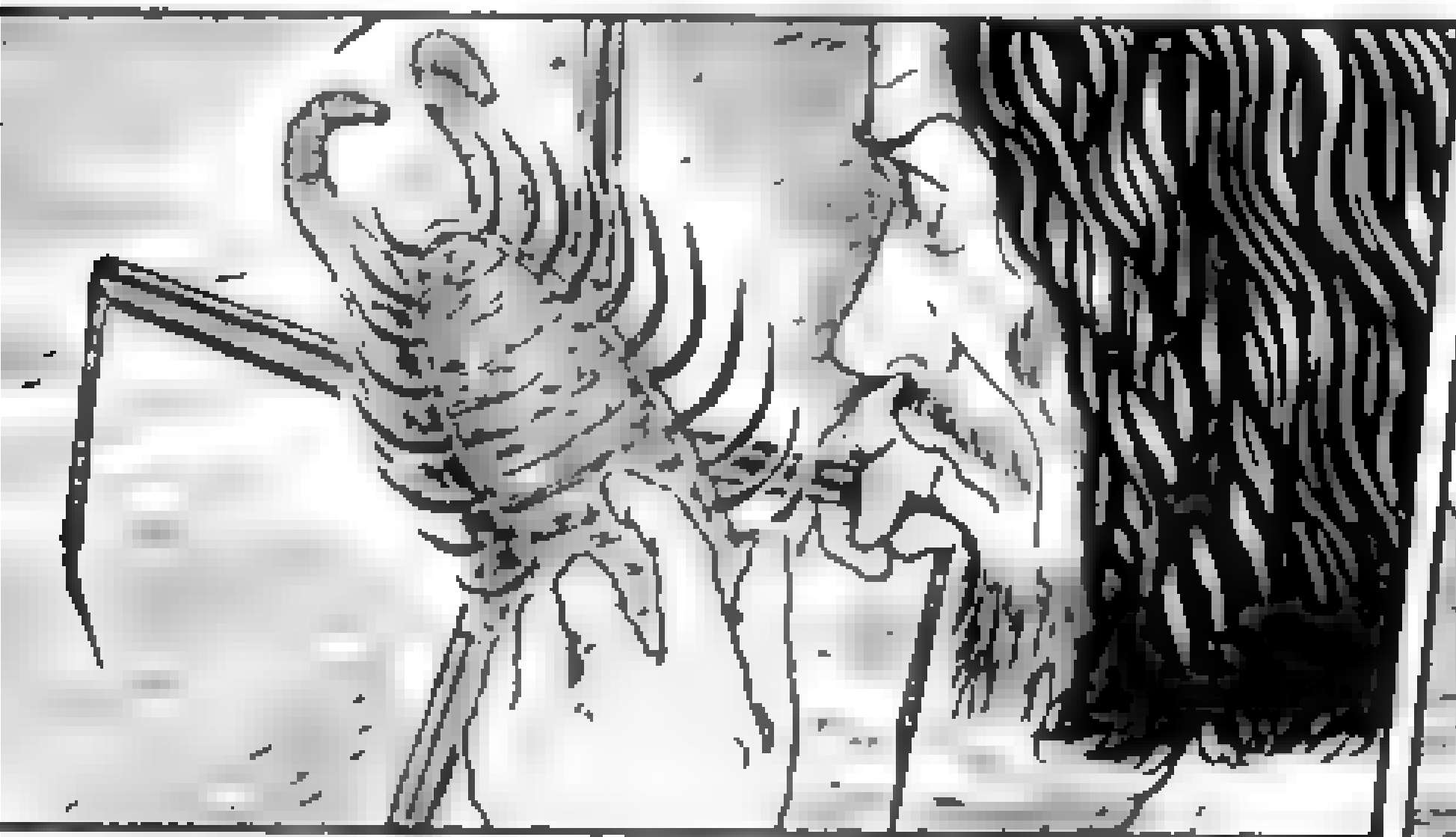
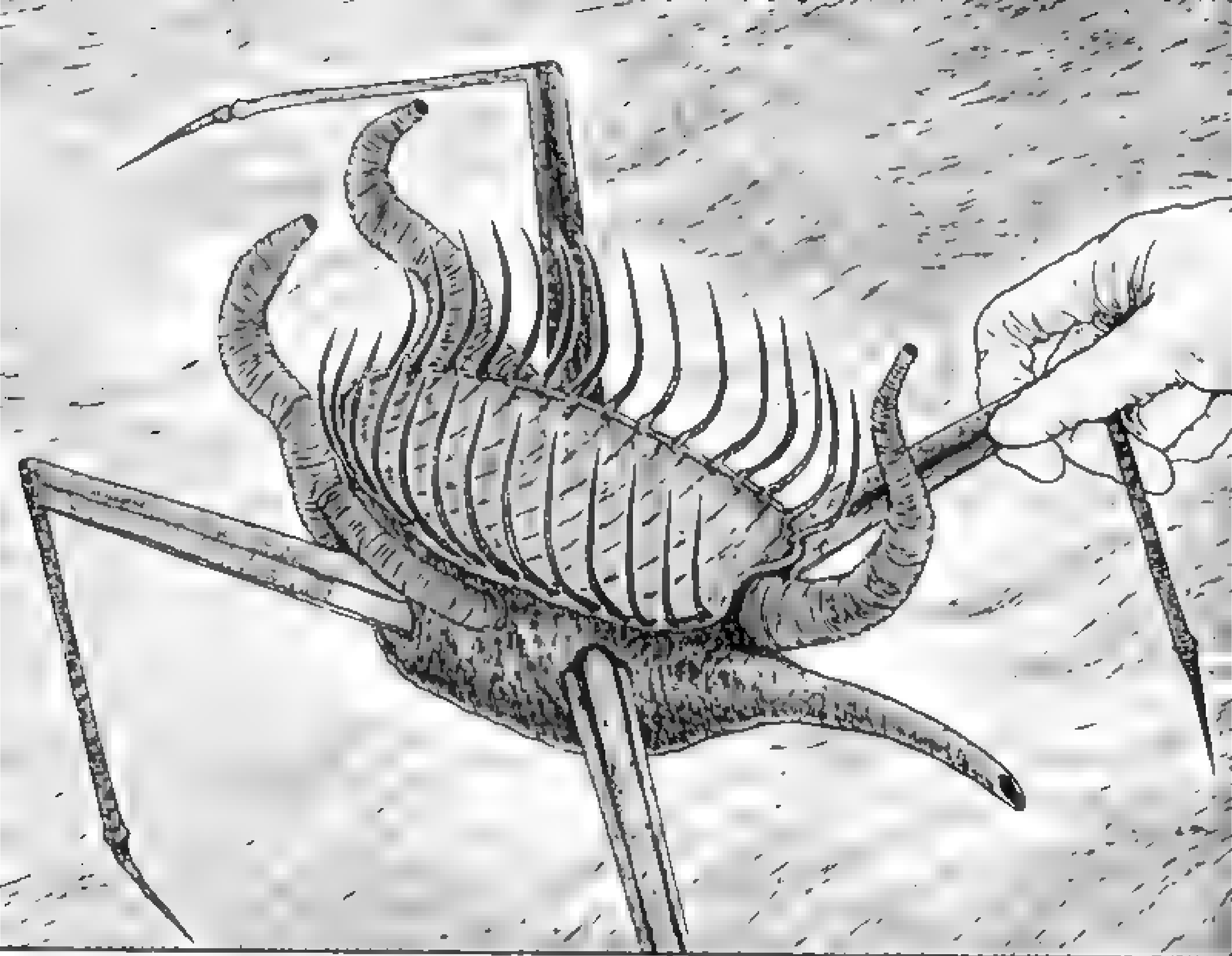


IT WAS  
JUST A  
COCKROACH.

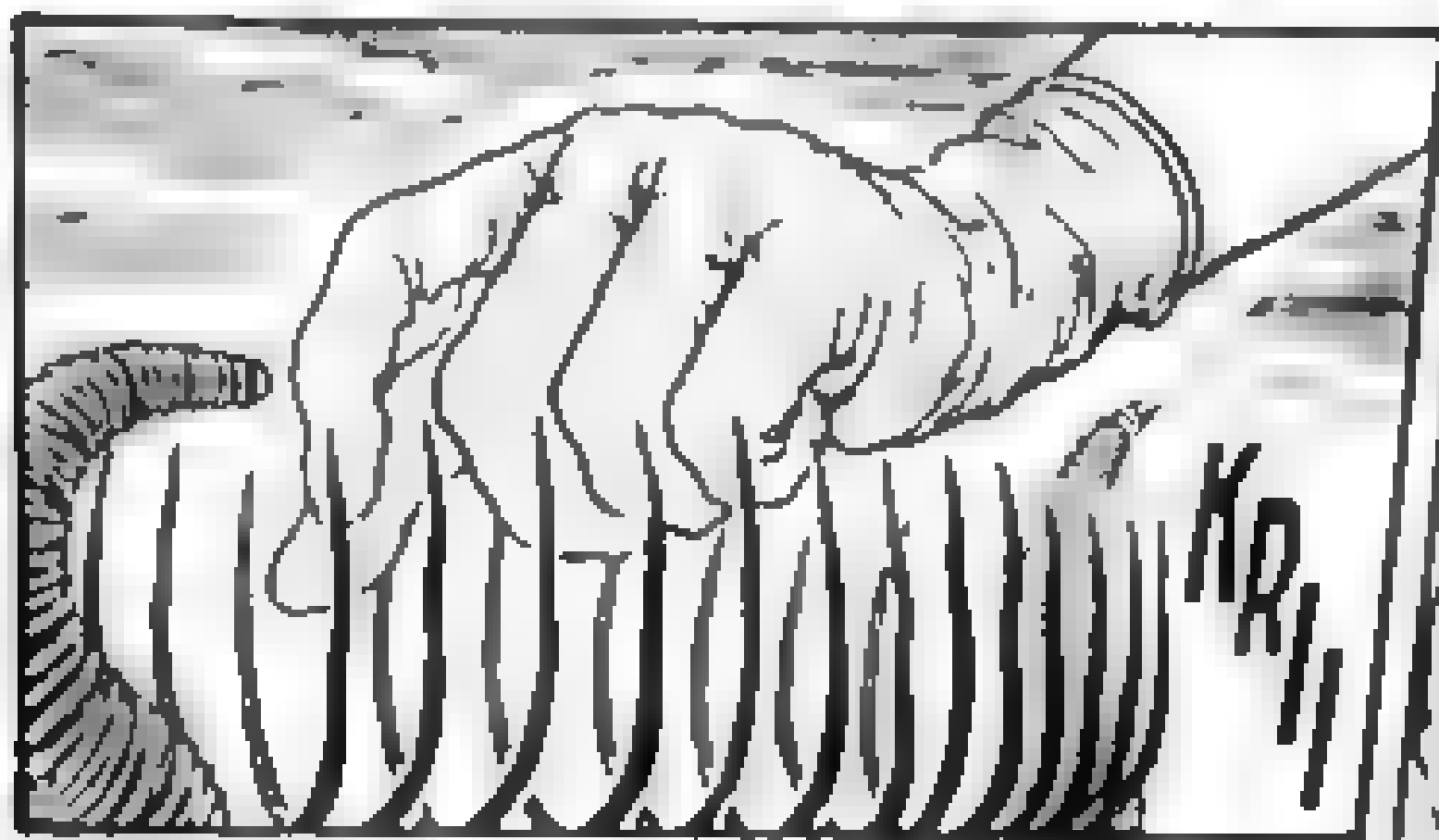






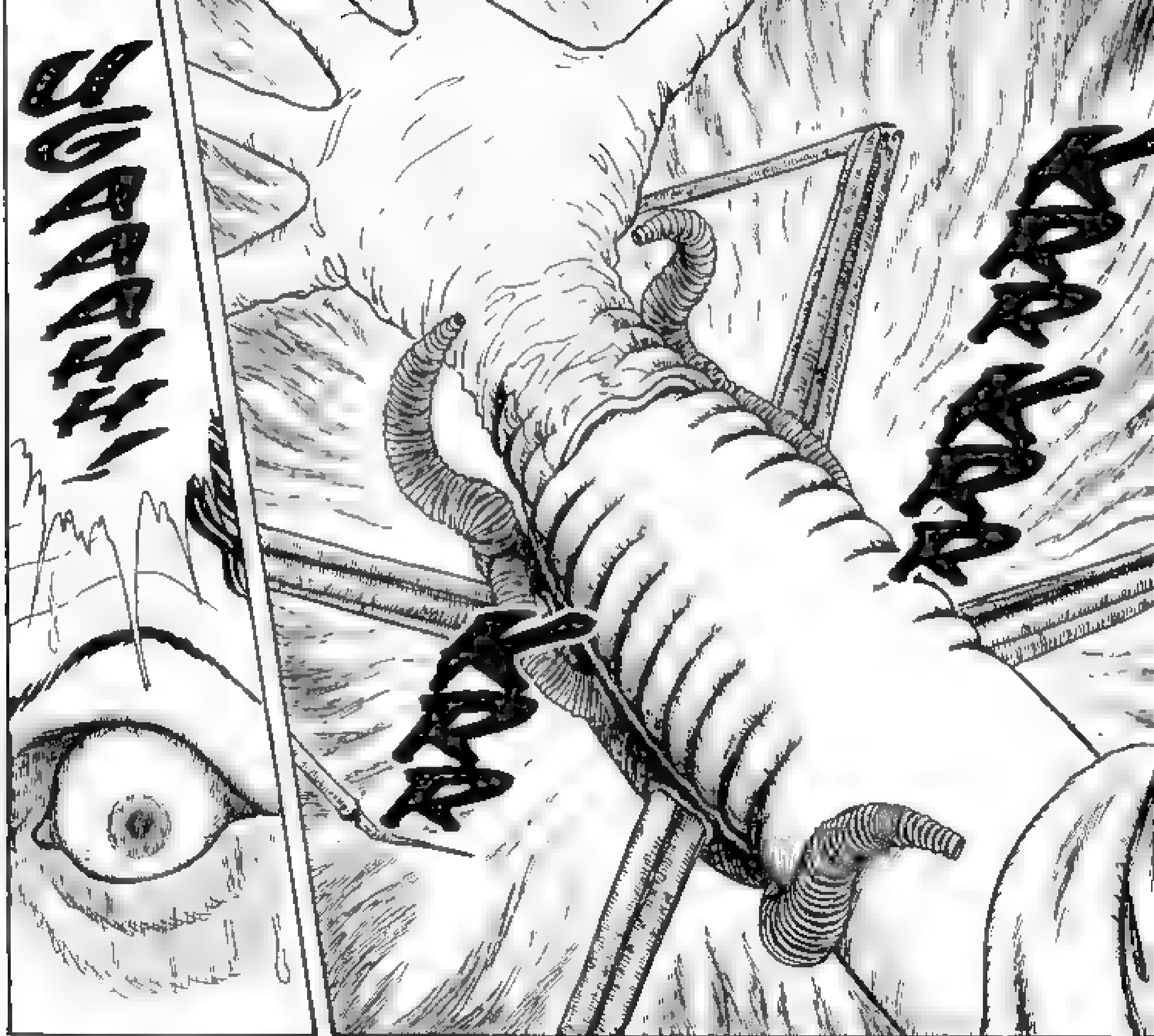


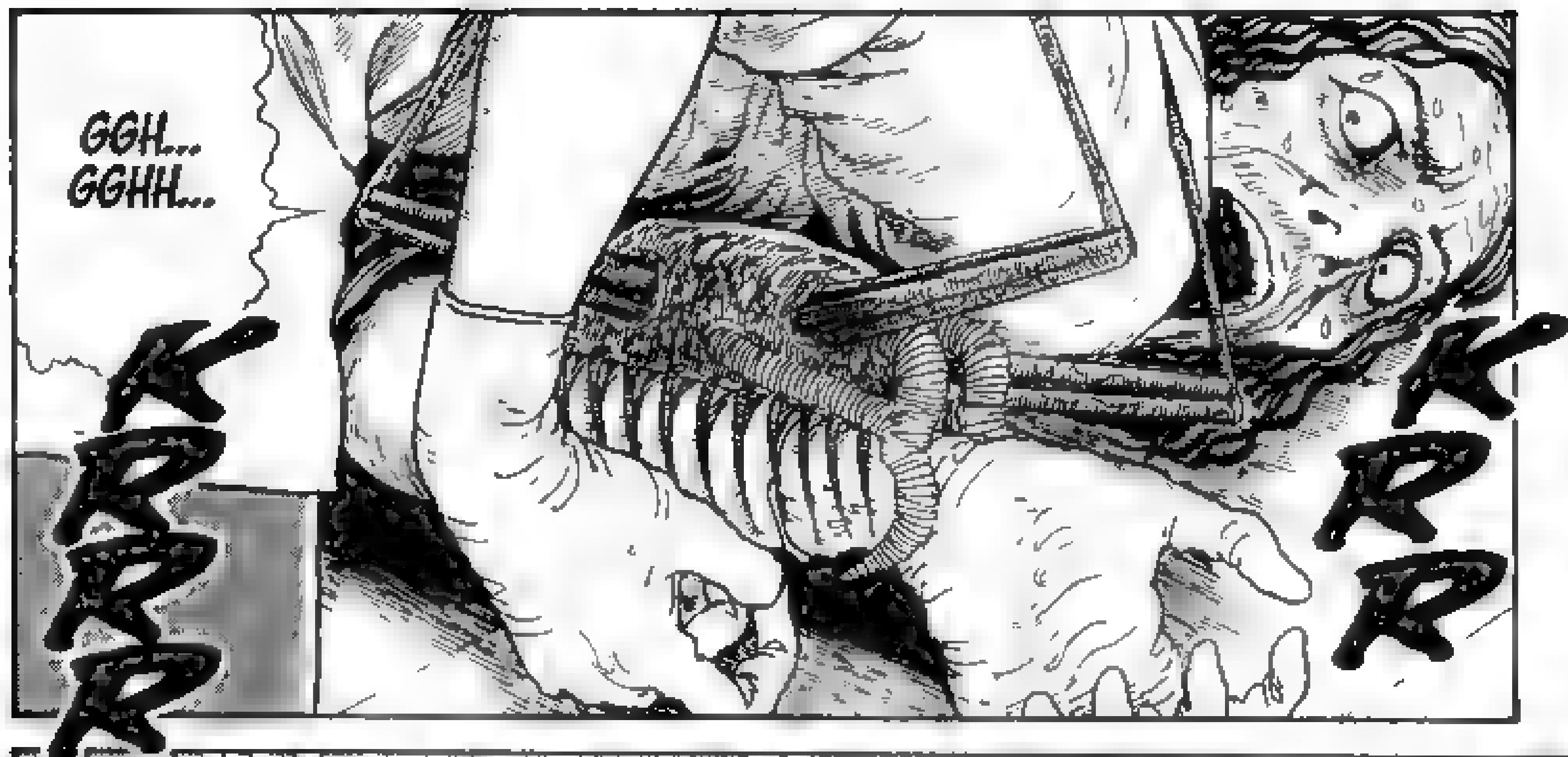
IS  
THIS  
PART  
OF THE  
FISH?











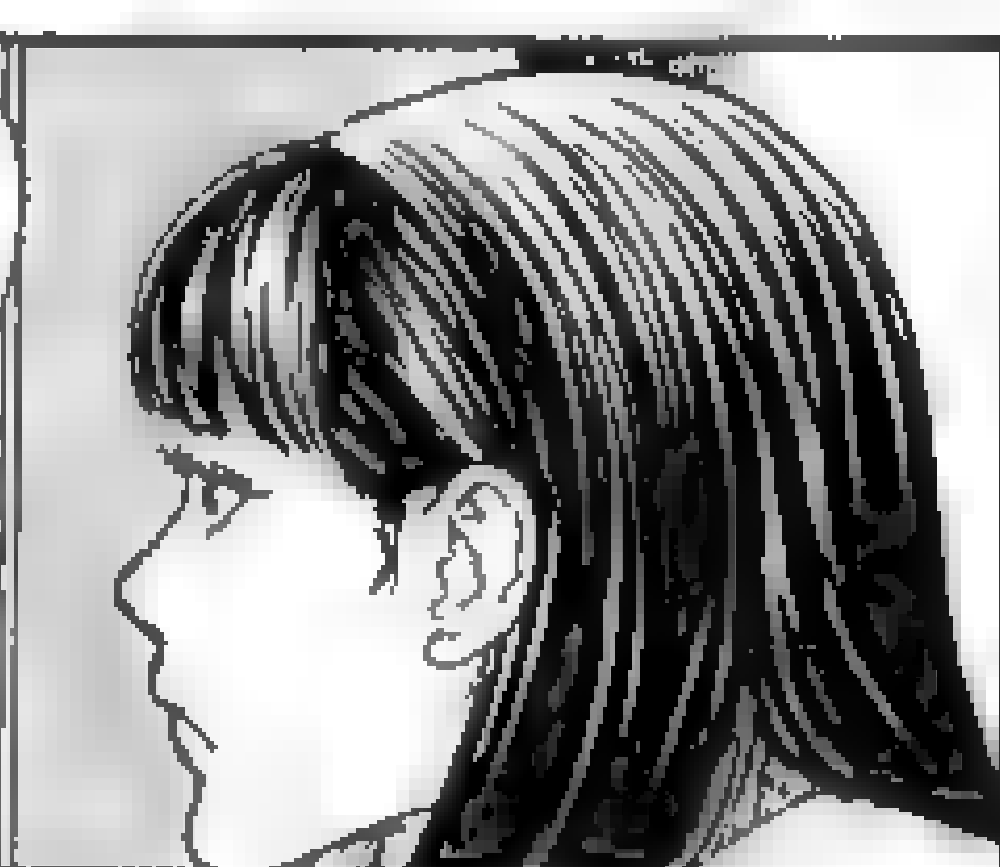




**AAIEEEEE!!**

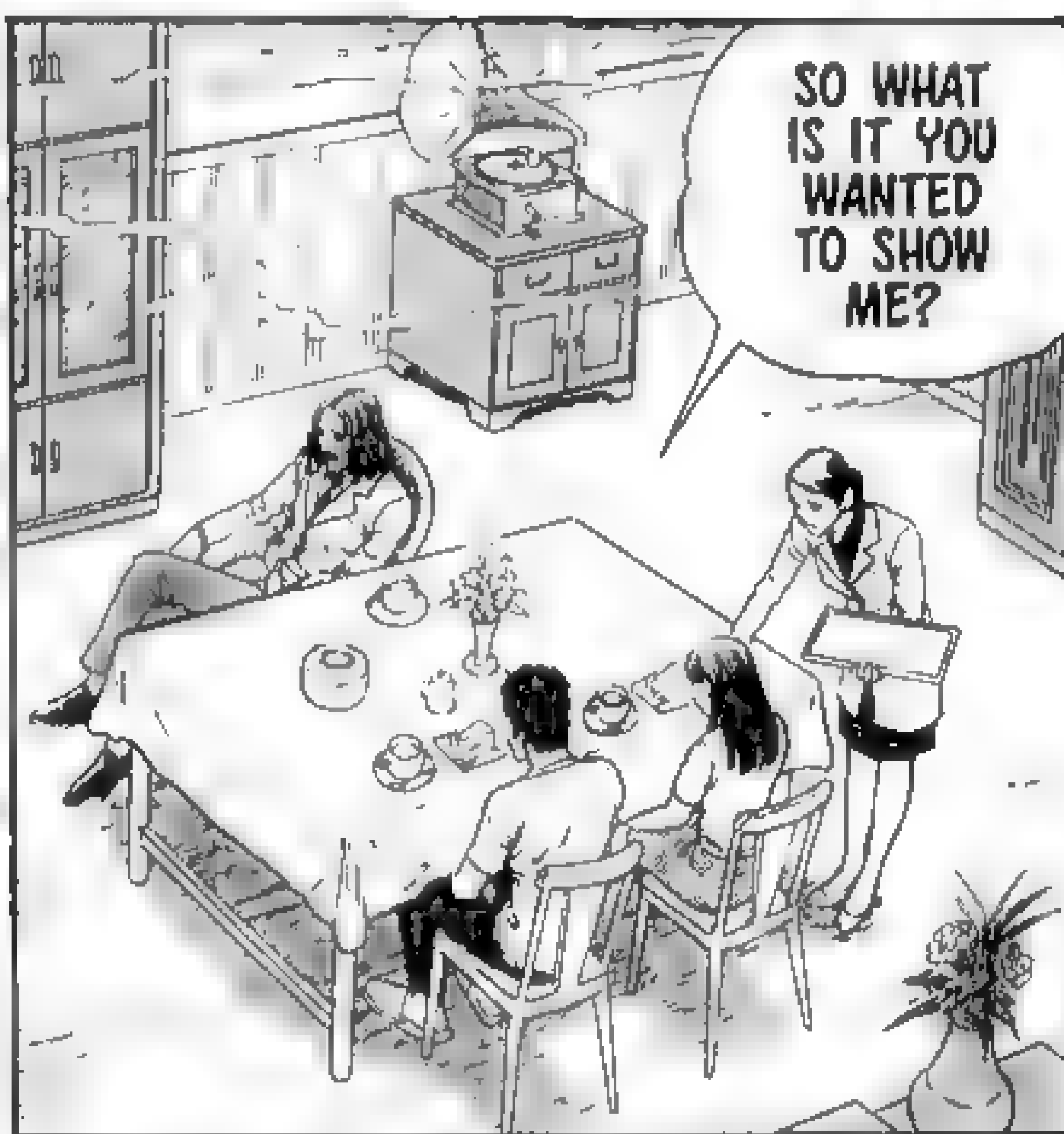








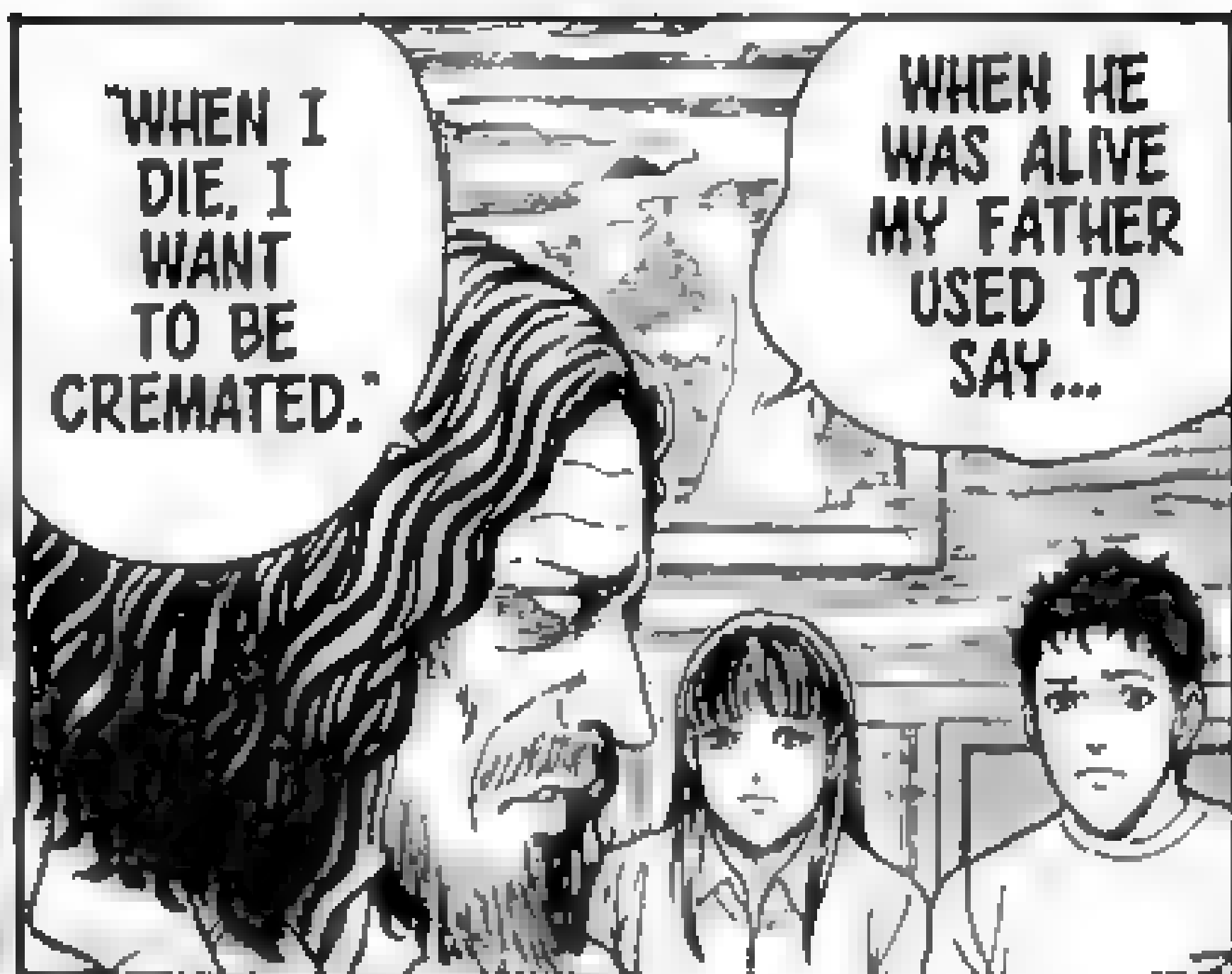






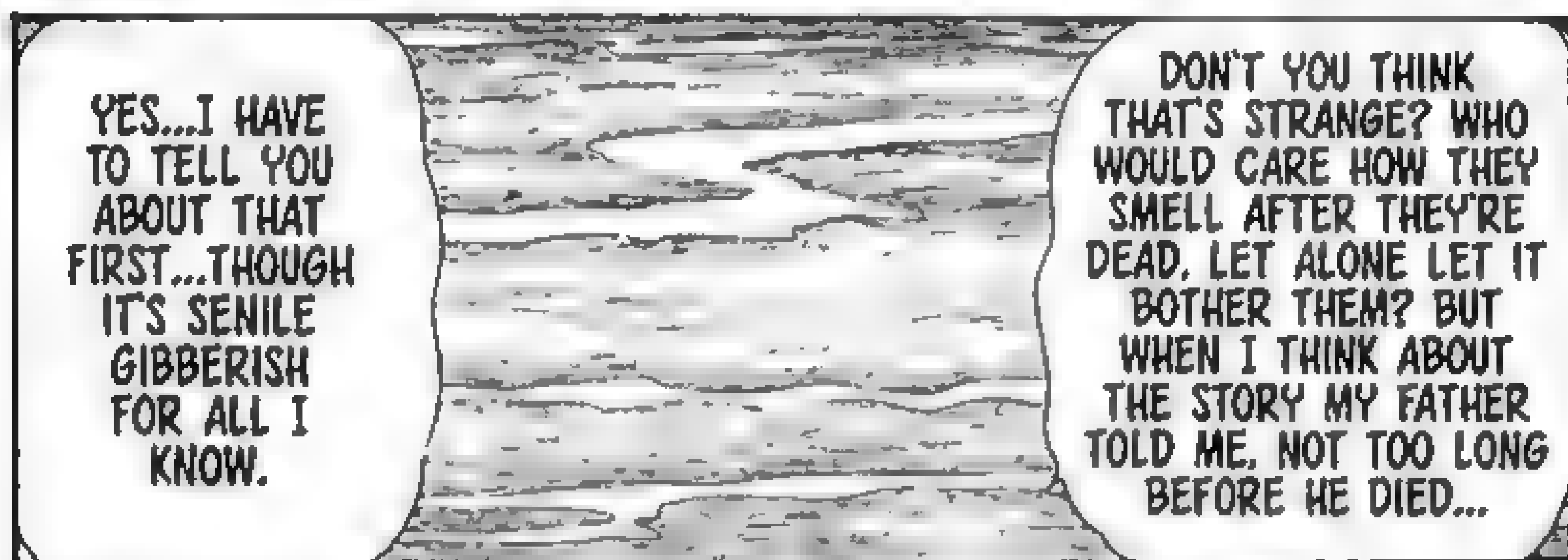
...HE SEEMED TO DREAD THE SMELL OF HIS CORPSE.

OF COURSE, MY FAMILY WAS PLANNING TO ANYWAY...BUT THE WAY MY FATHER SAID IT...



"WHEN I DIE, I WANT TO BE CREMATED."

WHEN HE WAS ALIVE MY FATHER USED TO SAY...



YES...I HAVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT THAT FIRST...THOUGH IT'S SENILE GIBBERISH FOR ALL I KNOW.

DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S STRANGE? WHO WOULD CARE HOW THEY SMELL AFTER THEY'RE DEAD, LET ALONE LET IT BOTHER THEM? BUT WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE STORY MY FATHER TOLD ME, NOT TOO LONG BEFORE HE DIED...



...TO AN UNINHABITED ISLAND NEAR OKINAWA.




DURING THE PACIFIC WAR, HE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM HIS ASSIGNED LAB...

MY FATHER WAS A SCIENTIST FOR THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY DURING THE WAR.


A black and white illustration of three scientists in a laboratory. They are wearing full-body protective suits and masks. One scientist is leaning over a table, working with a specimen, while two others stand behind him, observing. The background shows laboratory equipment and shelves.

...THEY  
DISCOVERED  
THAT THEY  
HAD  
MUTATED A  
MYSTERIOUS  
STRAIN OF  
GERM.

AFTER  
MANY  
FAILED  
EXPERI-  
MENTS...

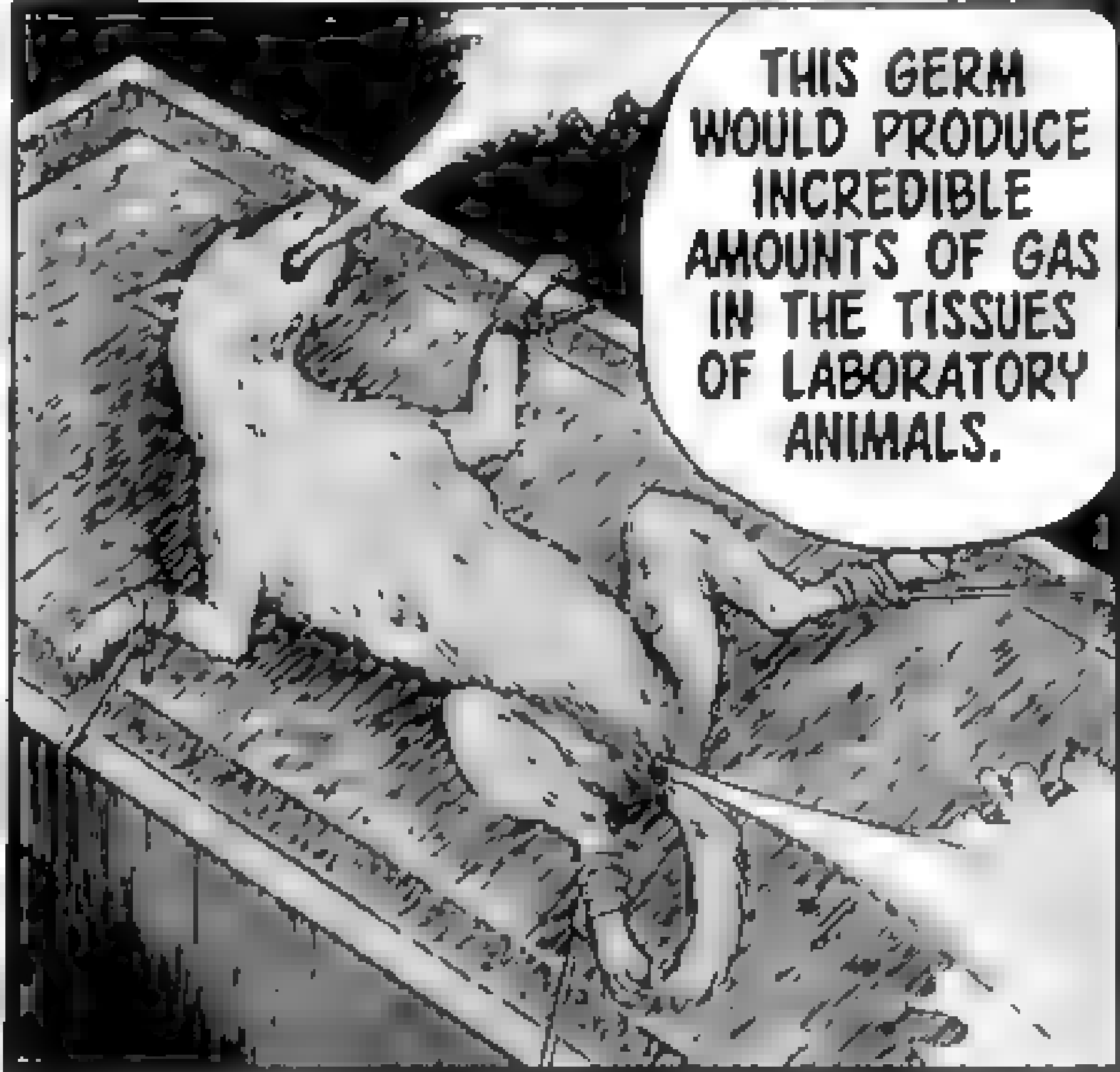
A black and white illustration of a large, multi-story building, likely a military or government facility, surrounded by trees and a fence. The scene is set in a rural or semi-rural area.

APPARENTLY,  
THE IMPERIAL  
ARMY WAS  
SECRETLY  
DEVELOPING  
BIOLOGICAL  
WEAPONS.

A black and white illustration of two scientists in protective suits working on a large animal, possibly a pig, lying on a table. One scientist is using a tool to seal an opening on the animal's body, while the other watches.

...THE  
ANIMALS'  
BODIES  
WOULD  
INFLATE.

WHEN THE  
TECHNICIANS  
SEALED  
THEIR  
ORIFICES...


A black and white illustration of the same animal from the previous panel, now lying on a table and completely inflated, resembling a large, bloated balloon. A scientist in a protective suit is standing next to it, looking at it.

THIS GERM  
WOULD PRODUCE  
INCREDIBLE  
AMOUNTS OF GAS  
IN THE TISSUES  
OF LABORATORY  
ANIMALS.

A black and white illustration of two scientists in protective suits and masks. They are looking at each other with expressions of shock and concern. The background is a dark, possibly outdoor or semi-outdoor setting.

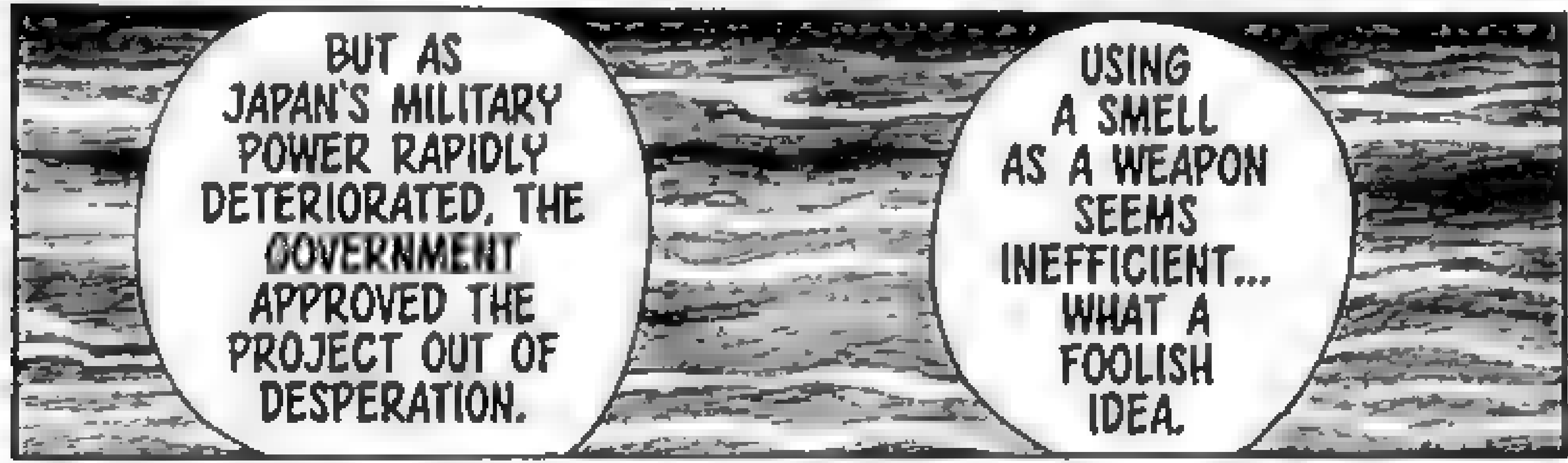
IT  
REEKED OF  
ROTTING  
FLESH...THE  
STENCH OF  
A HUMAN  
CORPSE.

BUT WHAT  
REALLY SURPRISED  
THE SCIENTISTS  
WASN'T THE  
AMOUNT OF THE  
GAS...IT WAS THE  
SMELL.



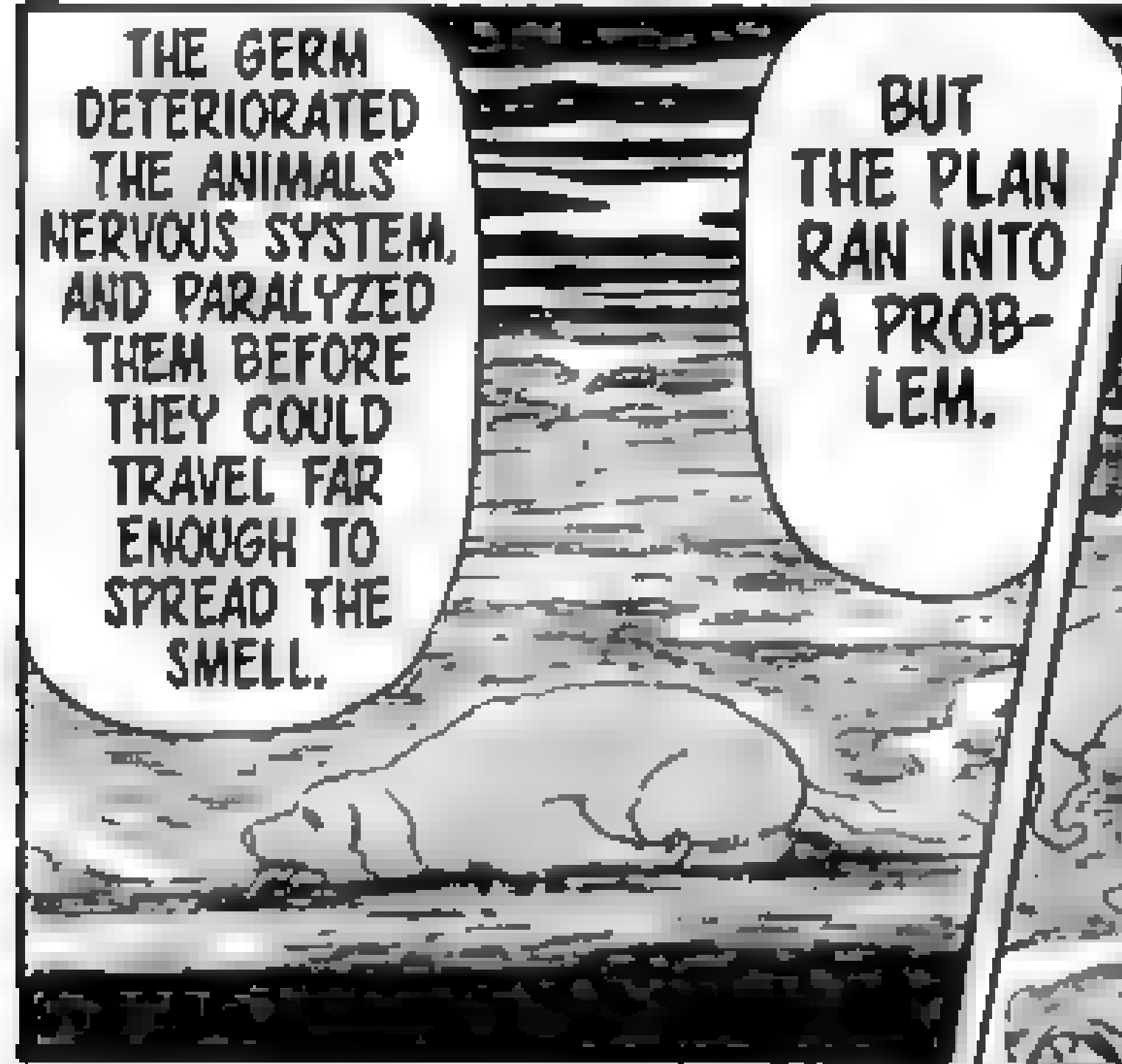
THAT'S  
WHEN THEIR  
SUPERVISORS  
REALIZED THAT  
IT COULD BE  
USED AS A  
WEAPON.

THE SMELL  
WAS SO BAD,  
MANY OF THE  
RESEARCHERS  
BECAME  
ILL.




BUT AS  
JAPAN'S MILITARY  
POWER RAPIDLY  
DETERIORATED, THE  
GOVERNMENT  
APPROVED THE  
PROJECT OUT OF  
DESPERATION.

USING  
A SMELL  
AS A WEAPON  
SEEMS  
INEFFICIENT...  
WHAT A  
FOOLISH  
IDEA.



THE GERM  
DETERIORATED  
THE ANIMALS'  
NERVOUS SYSTEM,  
AND PARALYZED  
THEM BEFORE  
THEY COULD  
TRAVEL FAR  
ENOUGH TO  
SPREAD THE  
SMELL.

BUT  
THE PLAN  
RAN INTO  
A PROBLEM.



THEIR  
FIRST IDEA WAS  
TO SEND IN WAVES  
OF INFECTED DOGS  
AND CATS TO  
NAUSEATE THE  
ENEMY.



AND  
SO THEY  
ASKED A  
BRILLIANT  
SCIENTIST  
...MY  
FATHER.

THEY  
NEEDED A  
BETTER  
MEDIUM FOR  
TRANSMISSION.

IT MIGHT  
HAVE WORKED IN  
CLOSE-QUARTERS  
COMBAT, ISLAND  
BY ISLAND,  
JUNGLE BY  
JUNGLE.

...WAS A  
WALKING  
MACHINE  
OPERATED  
BY GAS  
PRESSURE!!

HIS  
SOLU-  
TION...

OF COURSE, HE  
HAD HIS DOUBTS,  
BUT HE WAS  
CURIOUS ABOUT THE  
GERM'S ABILITY  
TO PRODUCE  
GAS...

...AND HE  
CLAIMED  
HE CAME  
UP WITH  
THE  
ANSWER.

IT  
SEEMS LIKE  
TOO MUCH TO  
IMAGINE...  
WHAT A  
BIZARRE  
WEAPON!

CATS, DOGS,  
COWS, OR HORSES  
WOULD RIDE THESE  
WALKING MACHINES  
PROPELLED BY THE  
GAS, INVADING  
ENEMY TERRITORY  
AS THEY SPREAD  
THE CLOUD OF  
DECAY.

...AND  
THEY  
WERE VERY  
SUCCESSFUL  
AT  
WALKING.

ACCORDING  
TO HIM,  
THEY MANU-  
FACTURED  
SEVERAL...

MY  
FATHER  
WENT TO  
THE ISLAND  
TO BUILD  
THIS  
MACHINE.



MY  
FATHER  
WAS THE  
ONLY  
SURVIVOR.

BUT  
AMERICAN  
FIGHTERS SUNK  
THE TRANSPORT  
SHIP CARRYING  
THE COMPLETED  
PROTOTYPES  
SOUTH TO THE  
BATTLEFIELD.

WELL...  
IT'S  
REALLY  
WEIRD...

FOR A LONG  
TIME, I DIDN'T  
BELIEVE HIM.  
BUT WHAT DO  
YOU THINK?

BUT  
WHO KNOWS  
WHETHER  
IT'S TRUE? IT'S  
SO IMPLAUSIBLE.  
AND I CAN'T  
FIND ANY  
CORROBORATING  
RECORDS.

HE WAS  
DEAD SERIOUS  
WHEN HE  
TOLD ME THIS  
STORY.

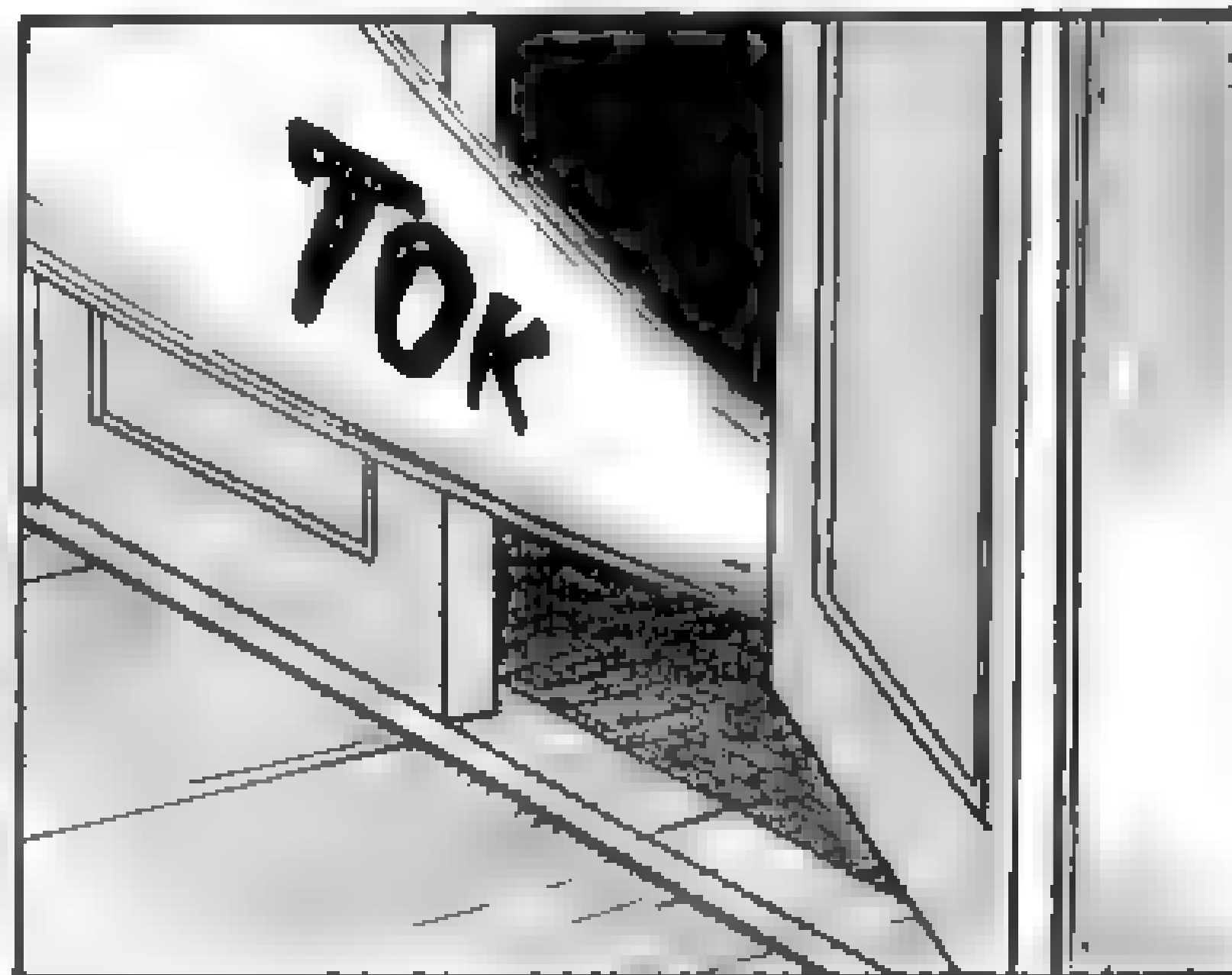
NO...  
CAN I  
USE YOUR  
BATH-  
ROOM?

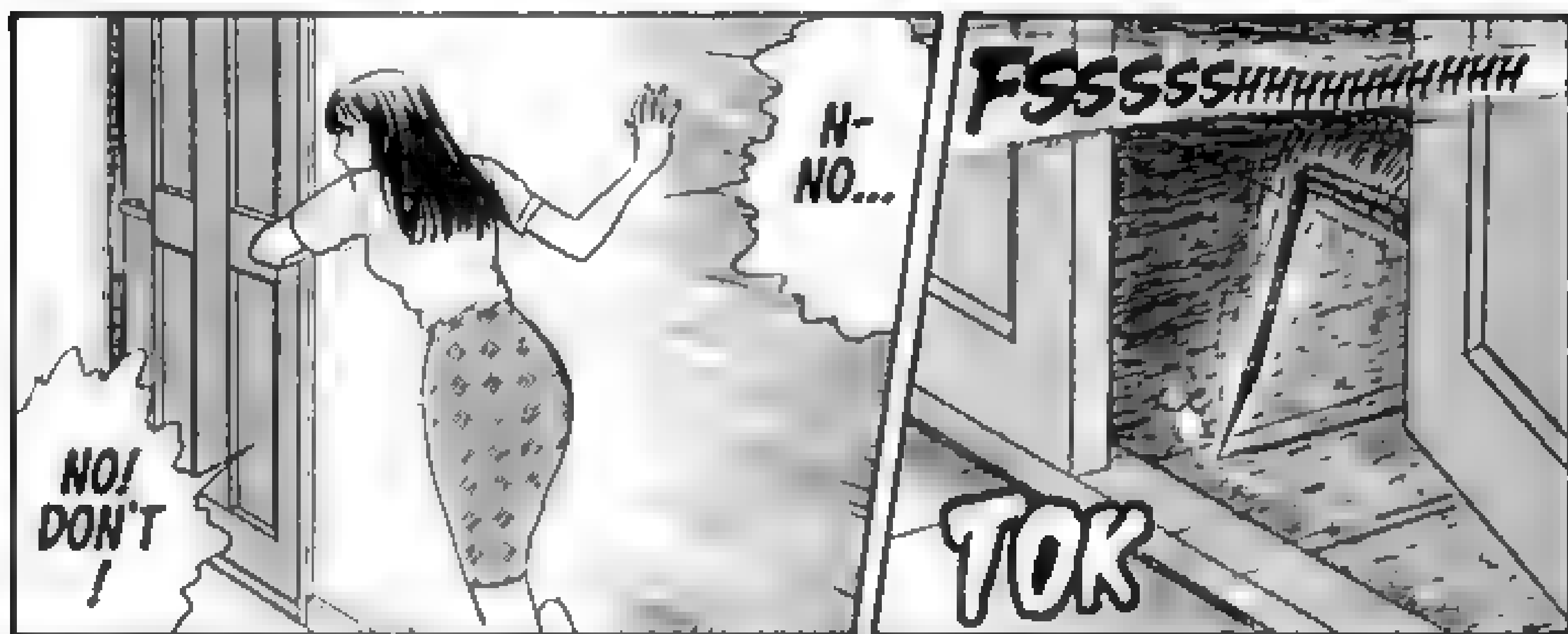
KAORI,  
DO  
YOU  
FEEL  
ALL  
RIGHT?











**REALLY  
!?**

**WHAT  
!?**

I  
ANALYZED  
THAT  
WALKING  
FISH.

SO  
ANYWAYS,  
TADASHI...

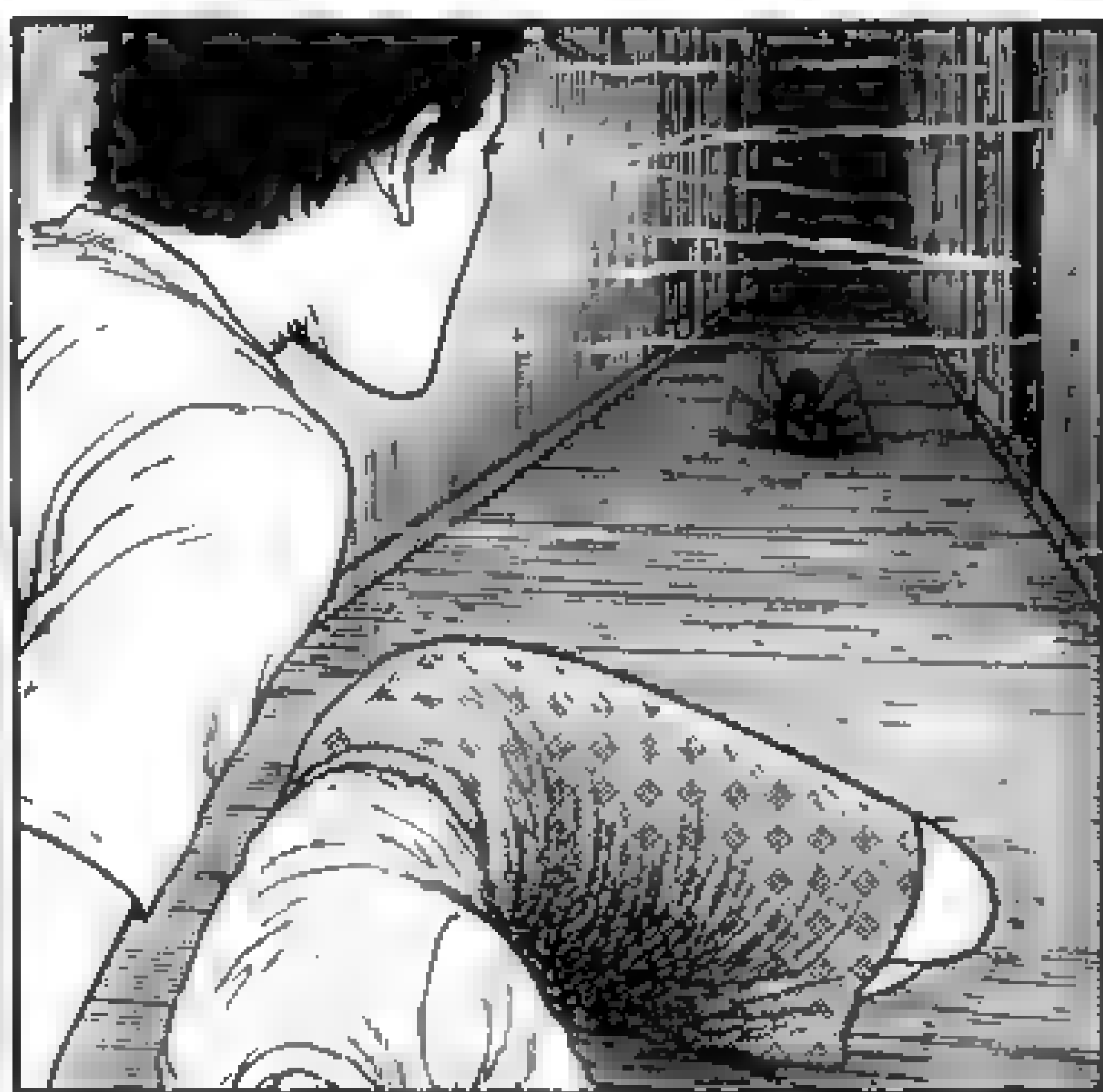
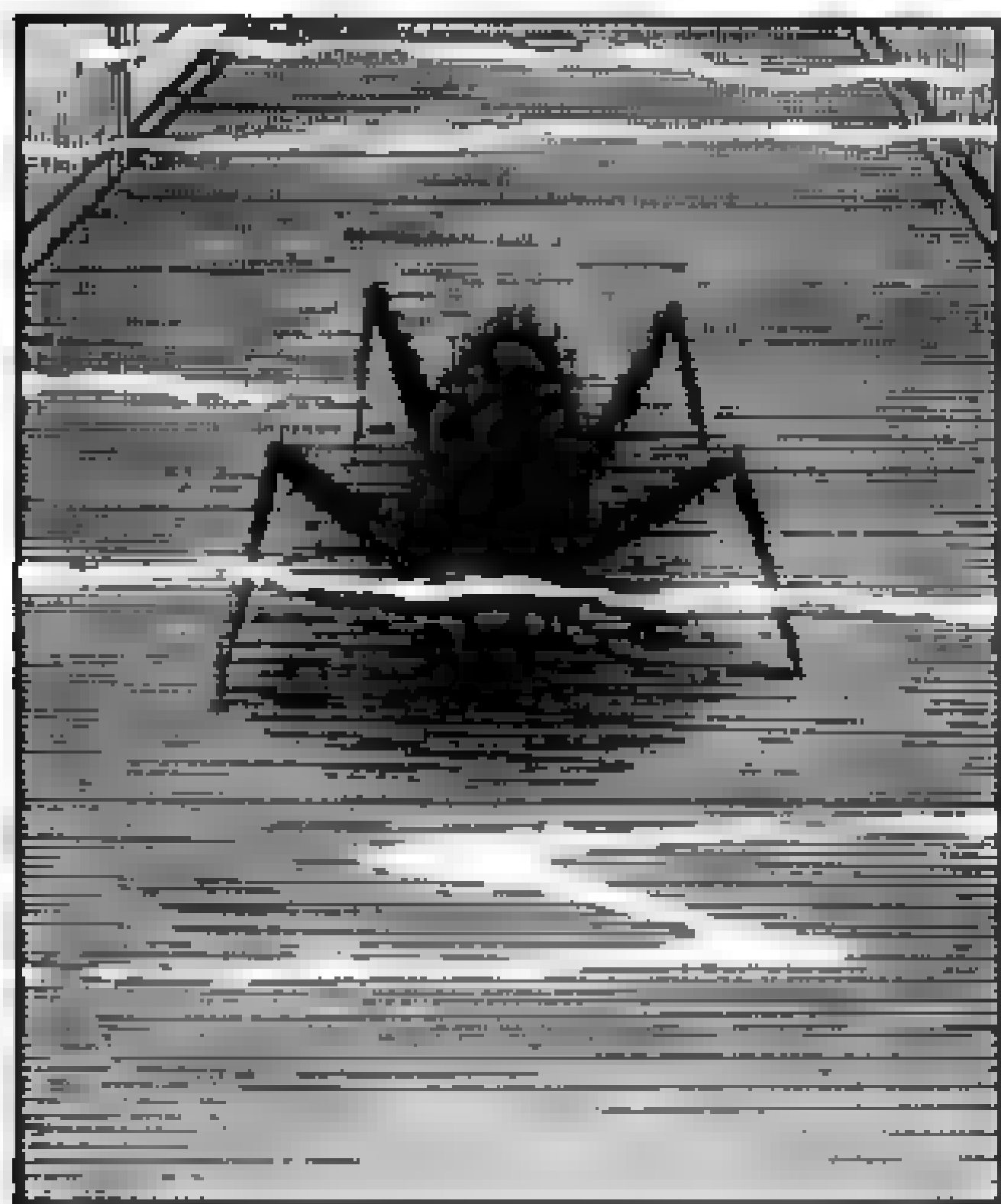
**WHAT  
DO  
YOU  
MEAN  
?**

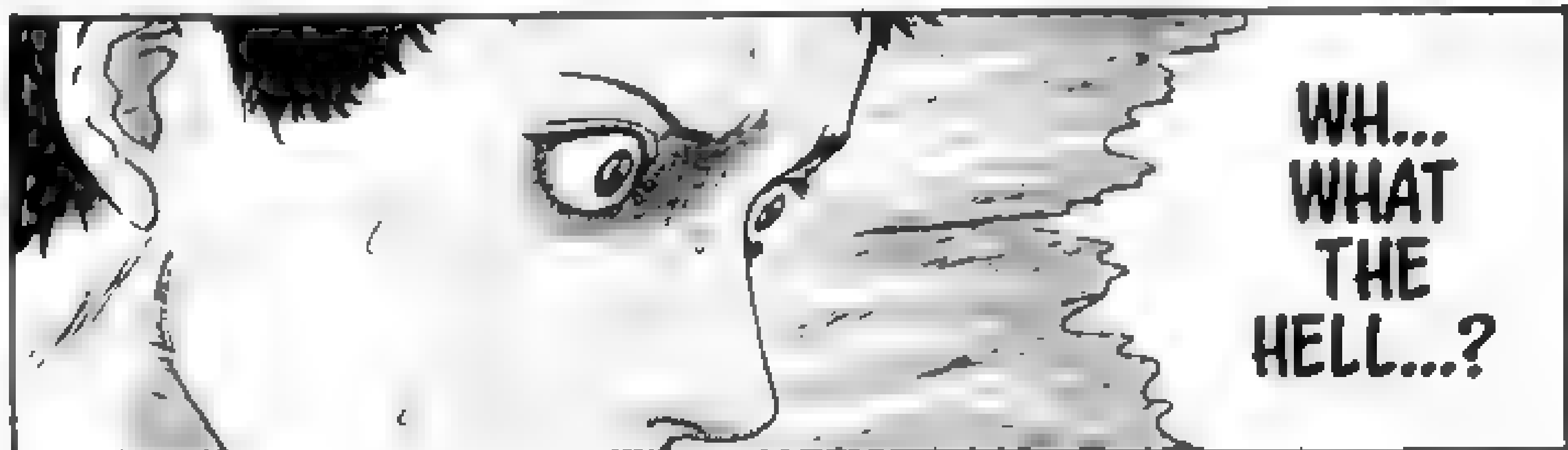
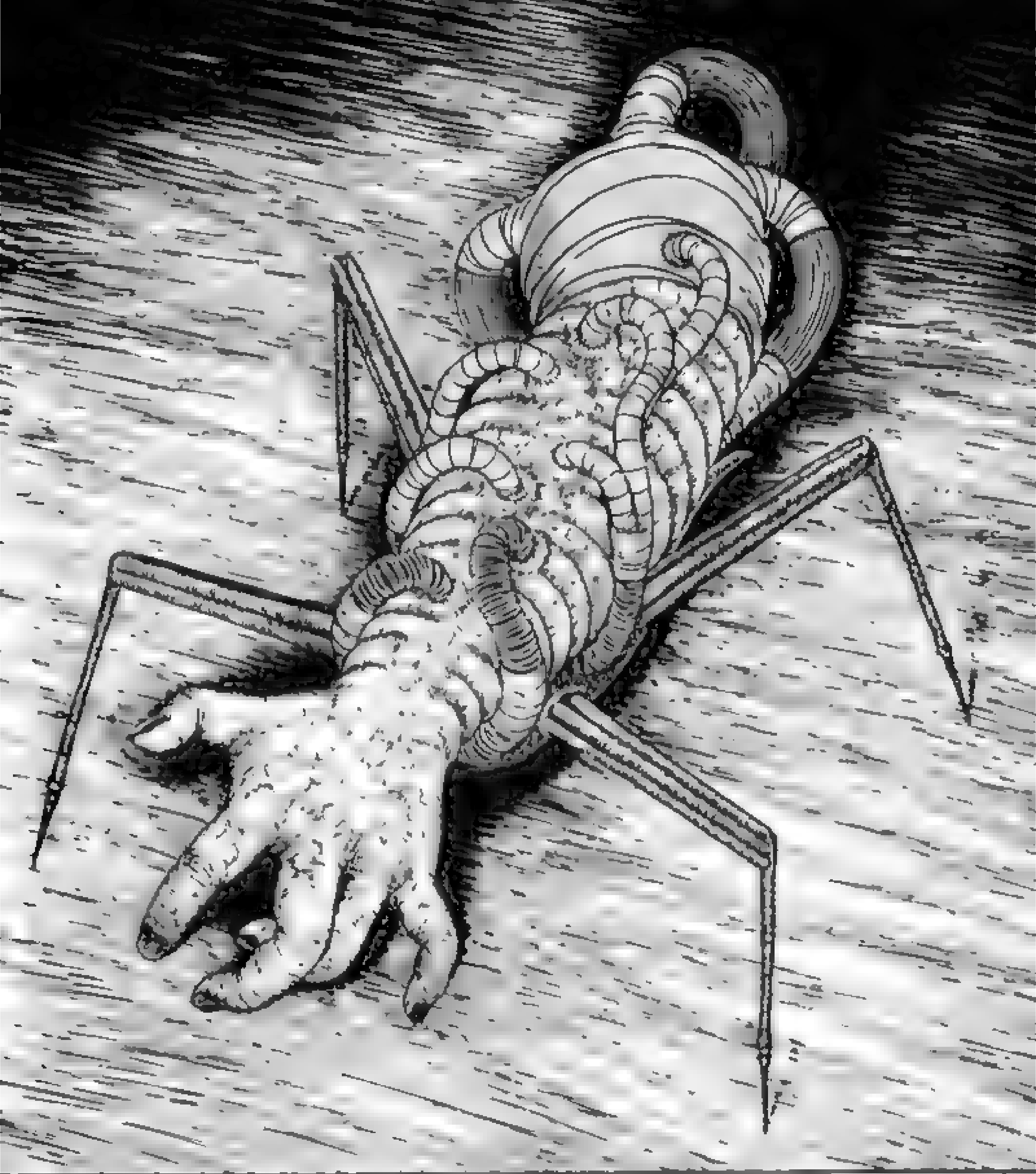
**FUSED  
...?**

THE LEGS  
AND THE  
FISH WERE  
SYNTHETIC-  
ALLY FUSED  
TOGETHER!

YES...  
THAT FISH  
DIDN'T  
GROW  
LEGS...

**AAAIIEEEEE!!**



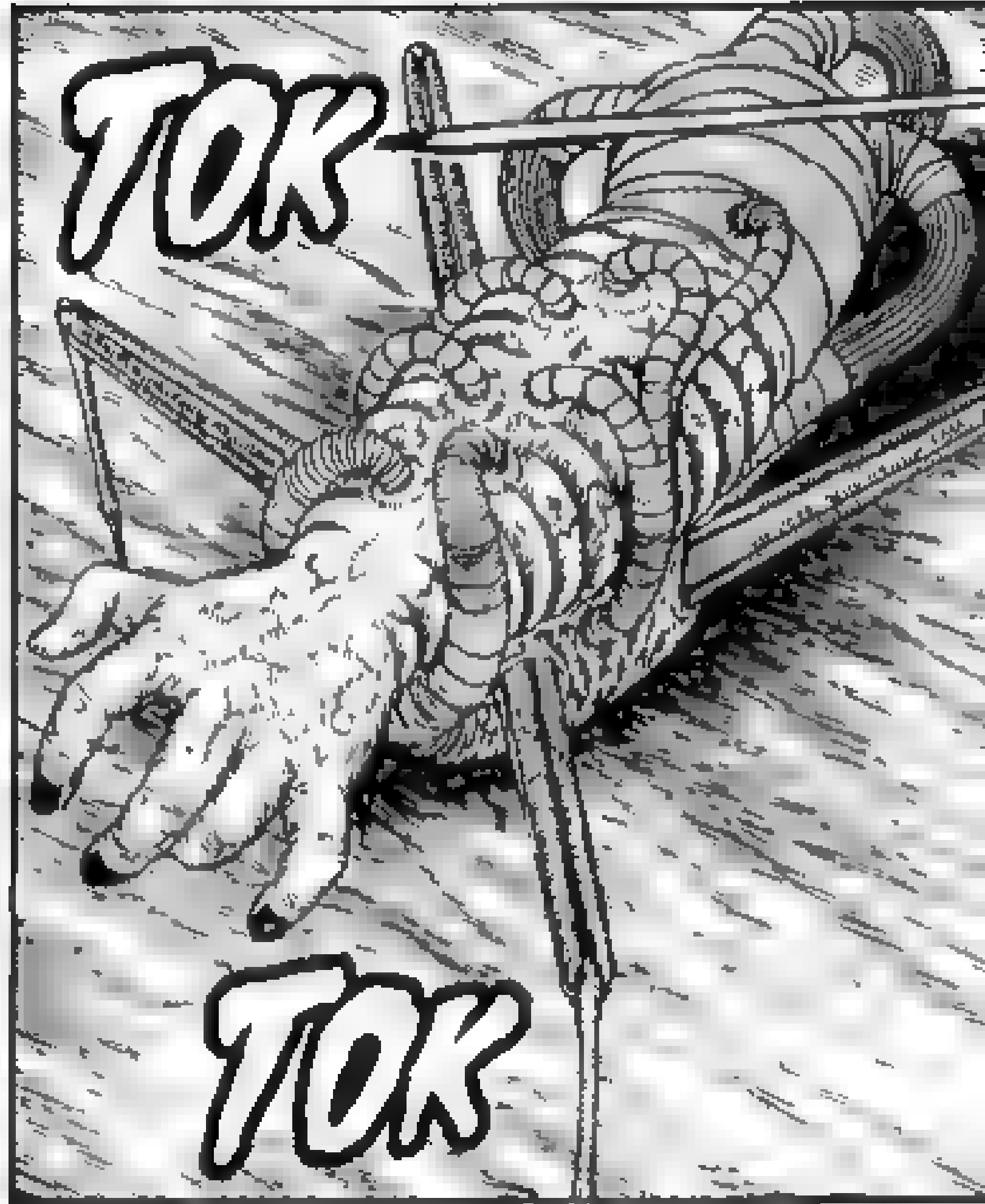


WH...  
WHAT  
THE  
HELL...?

# 8 / Infection



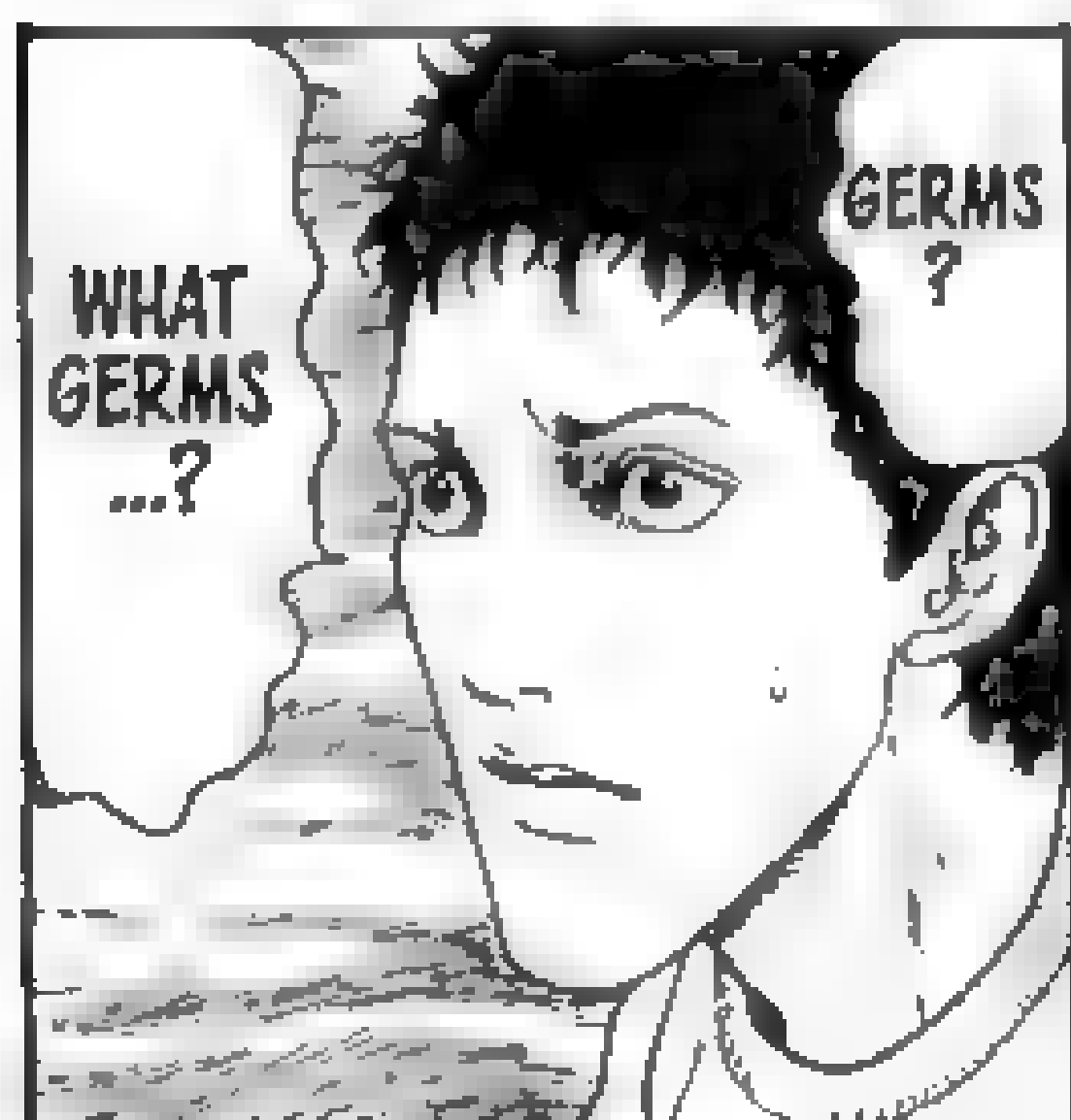






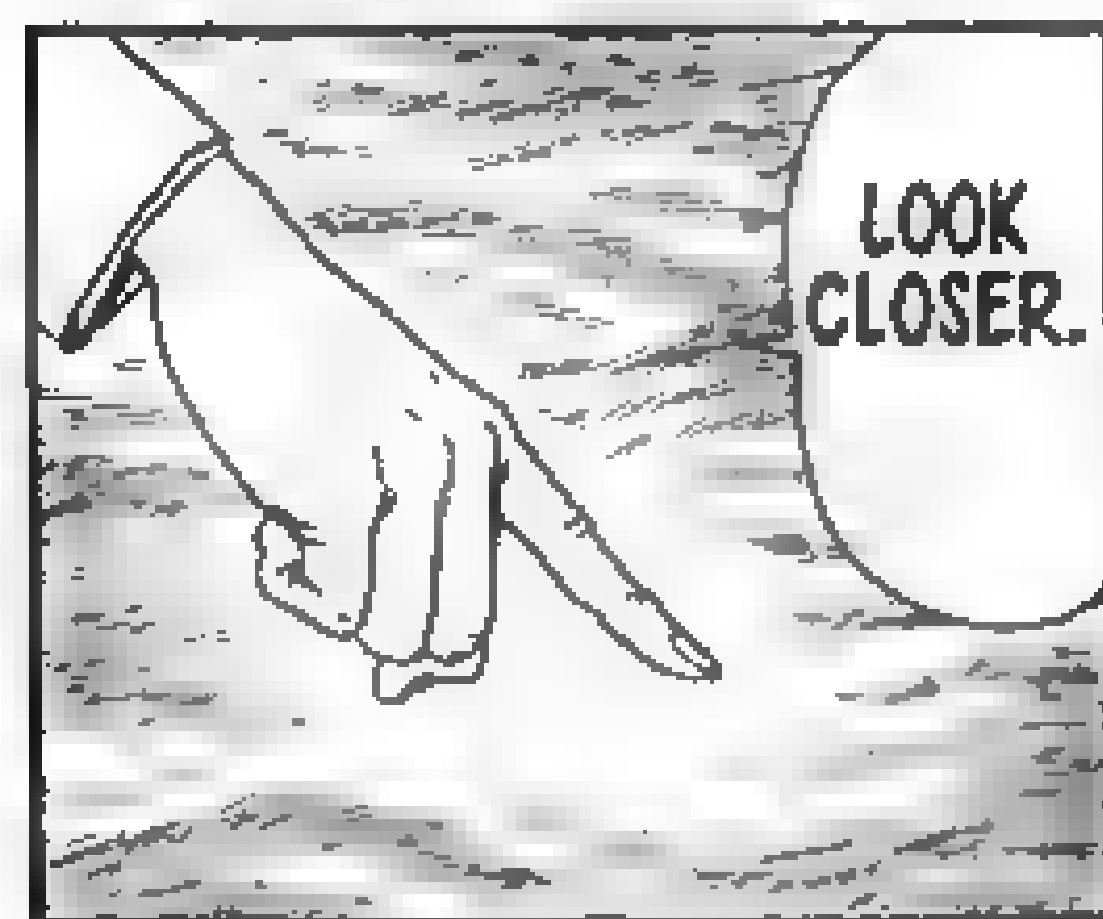
THE  
LEGS WHICH  
HAD BEEN ON  
THE FISH CAUGHT  
MY ARM...I HAD  
NO CHOICE  
BUT TO  
AMPUTATE.

THAT'S  
RIGHT...  
IT'S MY  
OWN  
ARM.



WHAT  
GERMS  
...?

GERMS  
?



LOOK  
CLOSER.



IF I HADN'T,  
THE GERMS  
IN THE FISH  
WOULD HAVE  
SPREAD  
THROUGHOUT  
MY BODY.

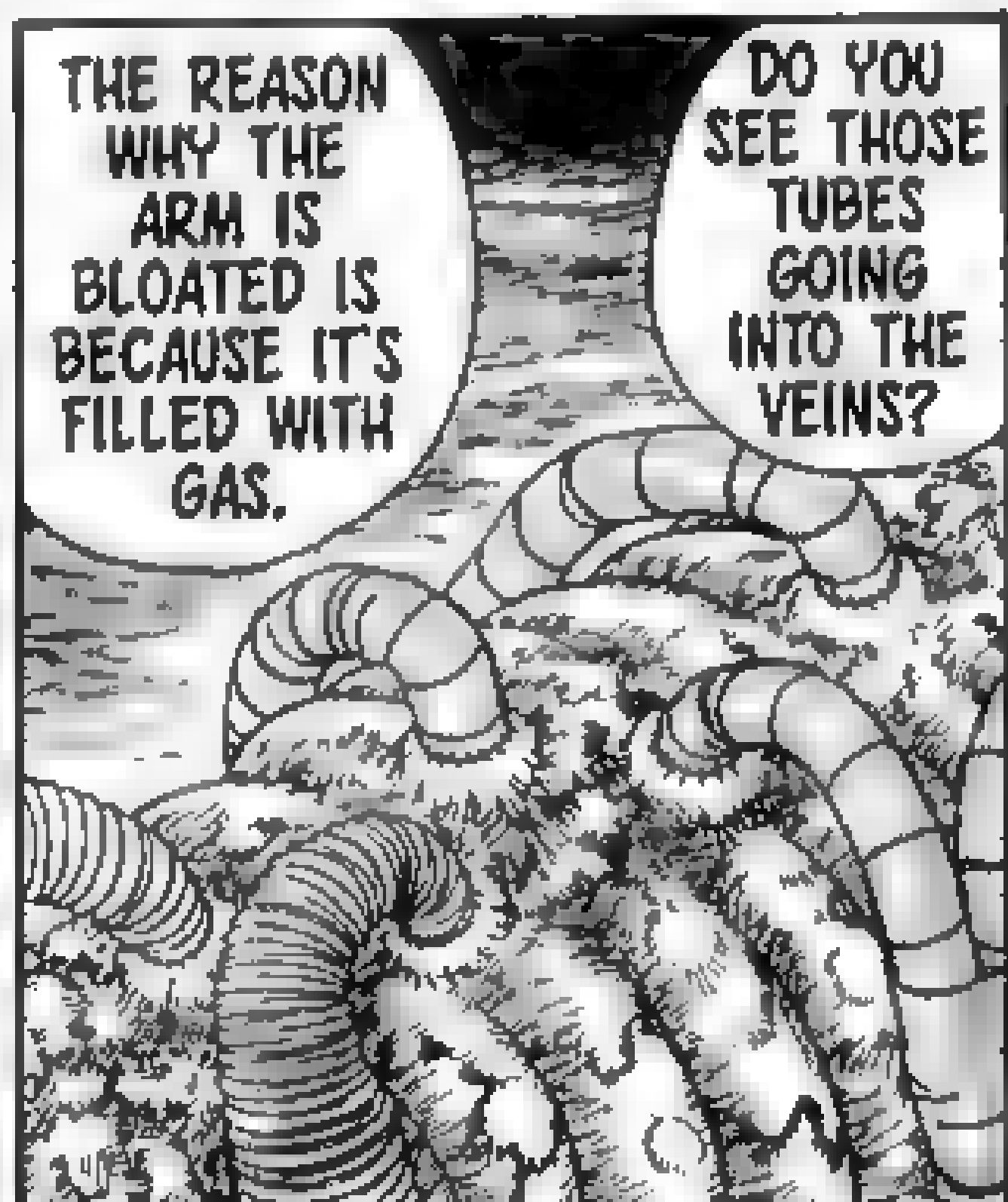
THEY'VE  
ALREADY  
INFECTED  
MY  
ENTIRE  
ARM.



...IS  
PRODUCED  
BY THE  
GERMS  
IN THE  
ARM.

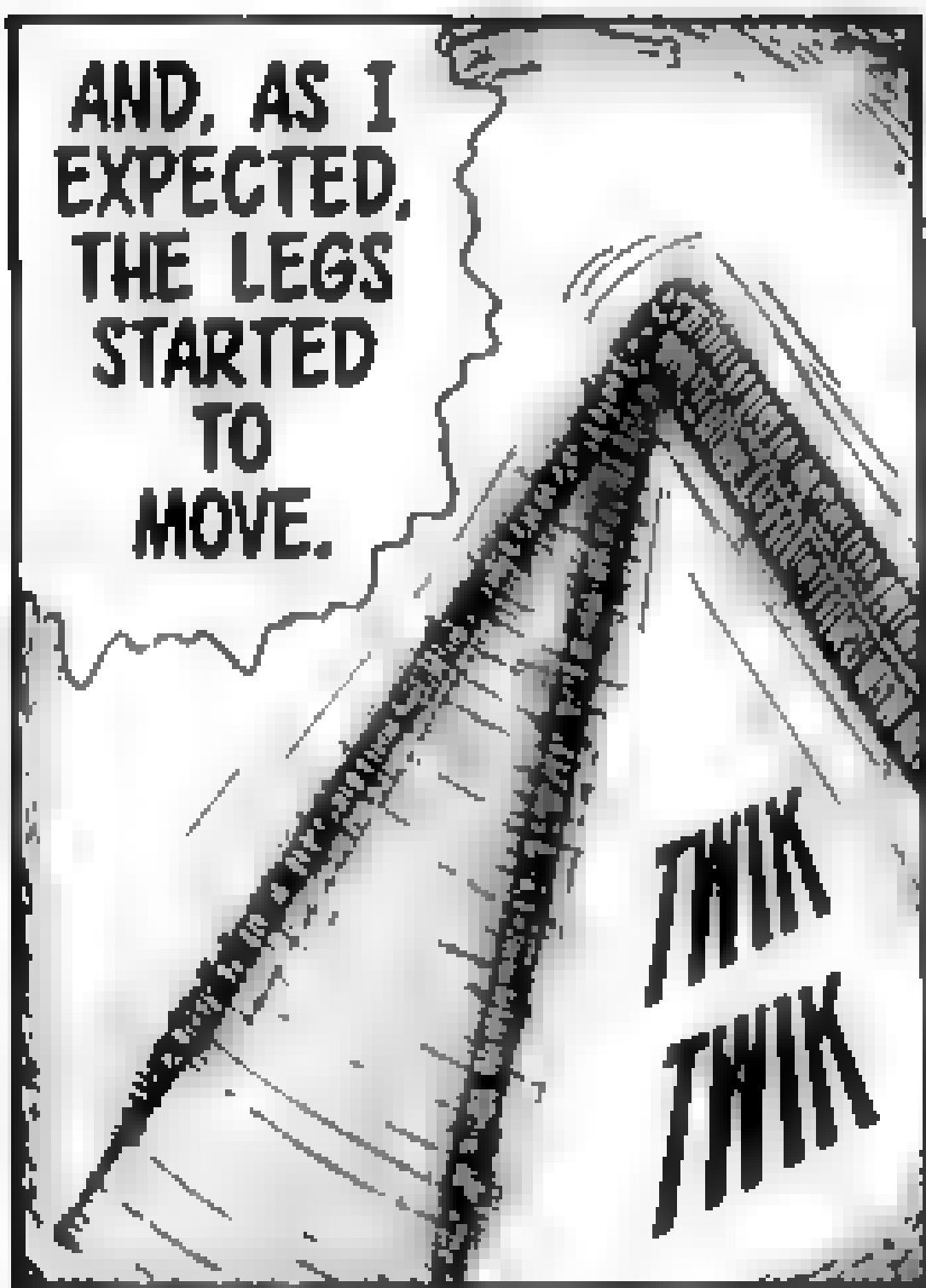
**FSSHHH**

AND  
THIS  
GAS...



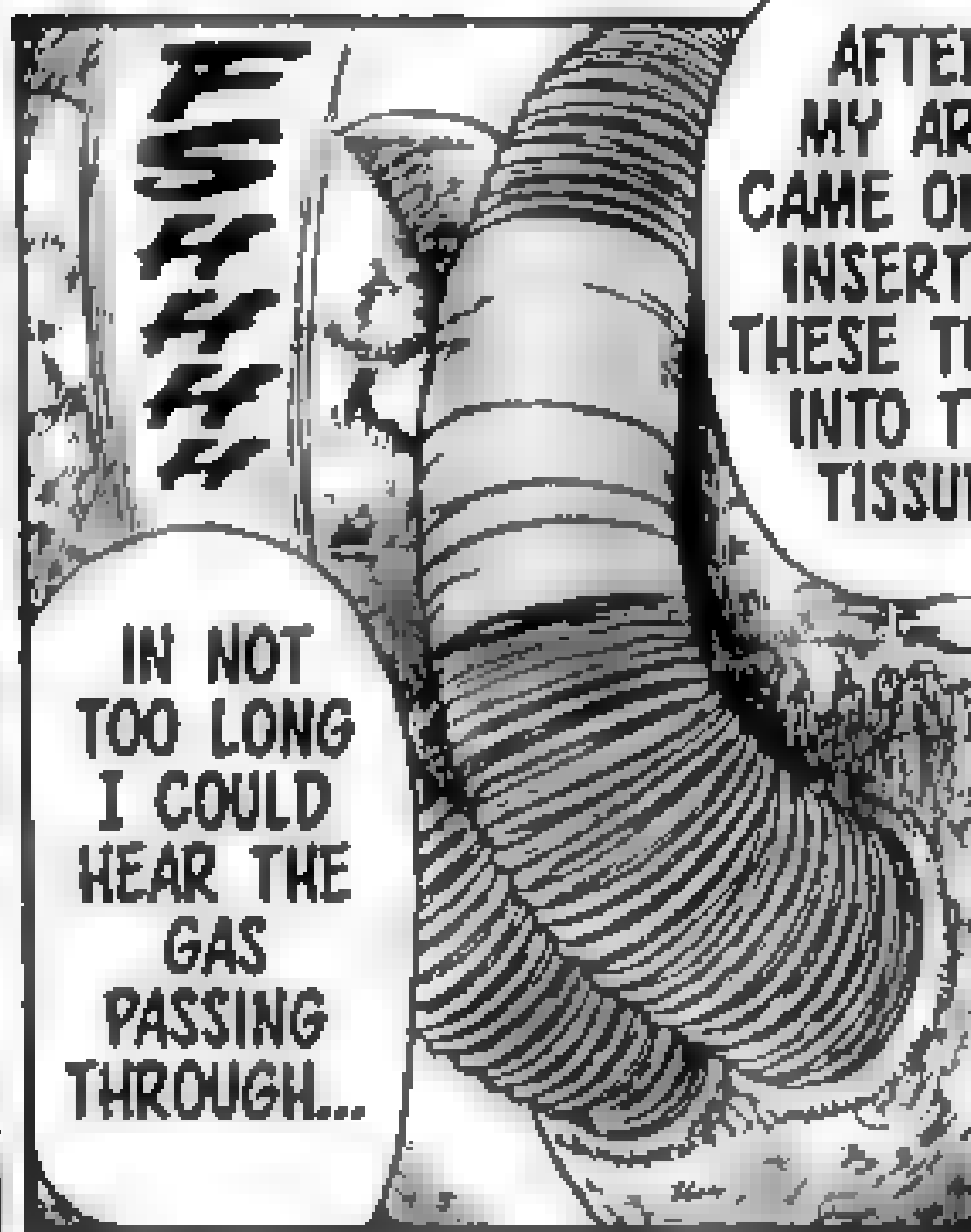
THE REASON  
WHY THE  
ARM IS  
BLOATED IS  
BECAUSE IT'S  
FILLED WITH  
GAS.

DO YOU  
SEE THOSE  
TUBES  
GOING  
INTO THE  
VEINS?



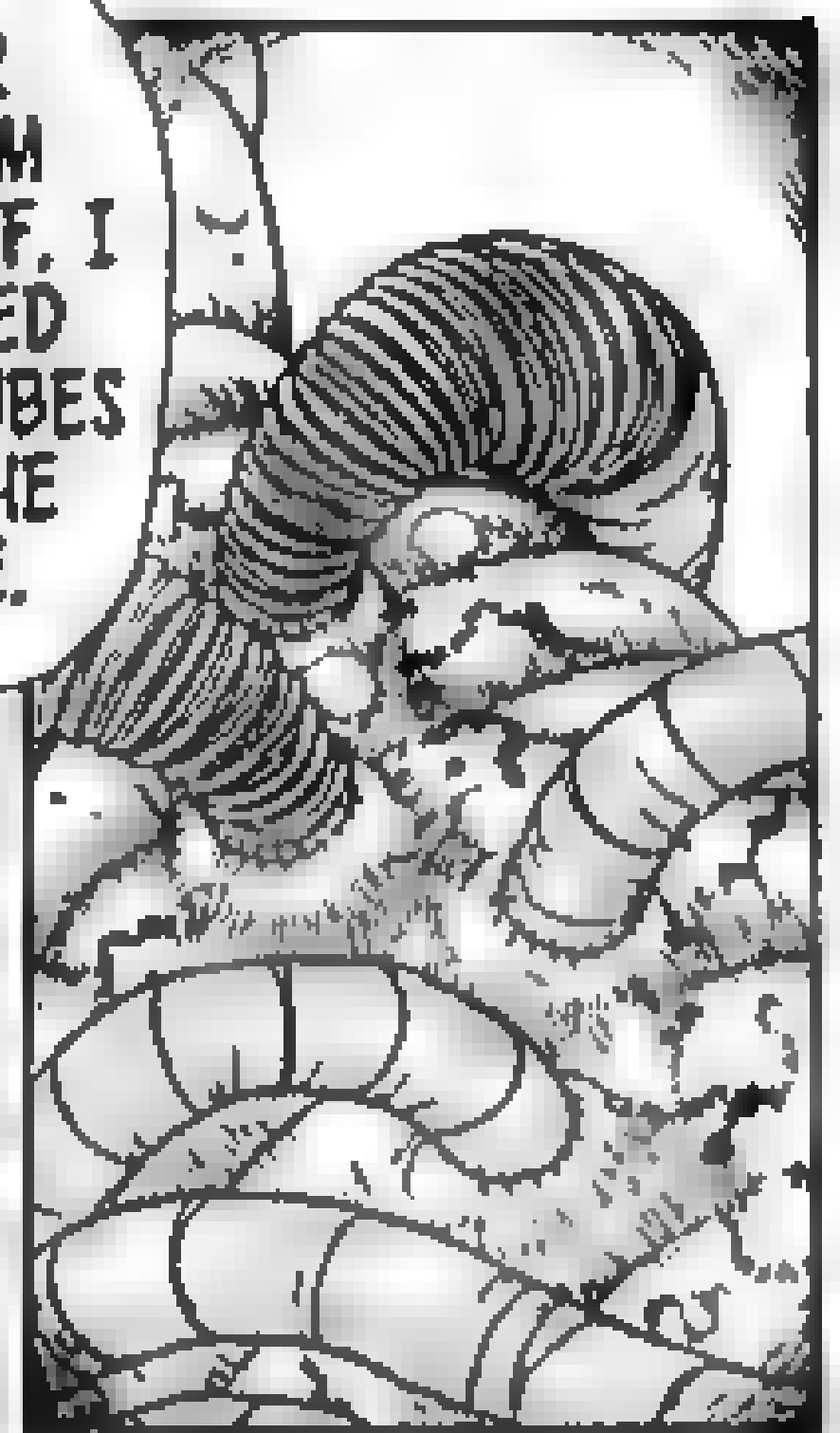
AND, AS I EXPECTED, THE LEGS STARTED TO MOVE.

THIK  
THIK



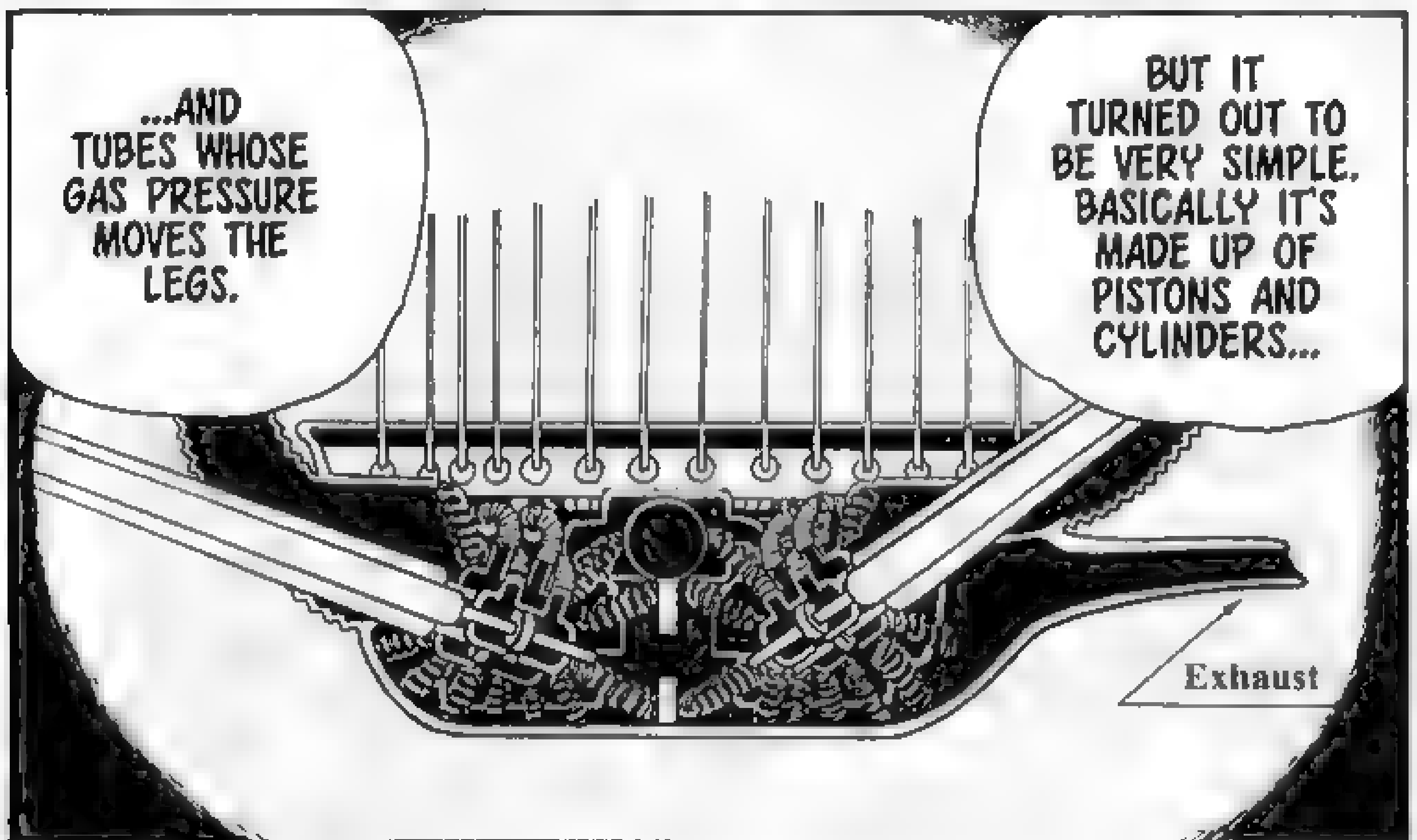
AFTER MY ARM CAME OFF, I INSERTED THESE TUBES INTO THE TISSUE.

IN NOT TOO LONG I COULD HEAR THE GAS PASSING THROUGH...



THE DISSECTION WAS DIFFICULT. ITS BODY AND LEGS WERE ALL MADE OF METAL... NO SCREWS, NO SEAMS... LIKE AN ORGANIC WHOLE.

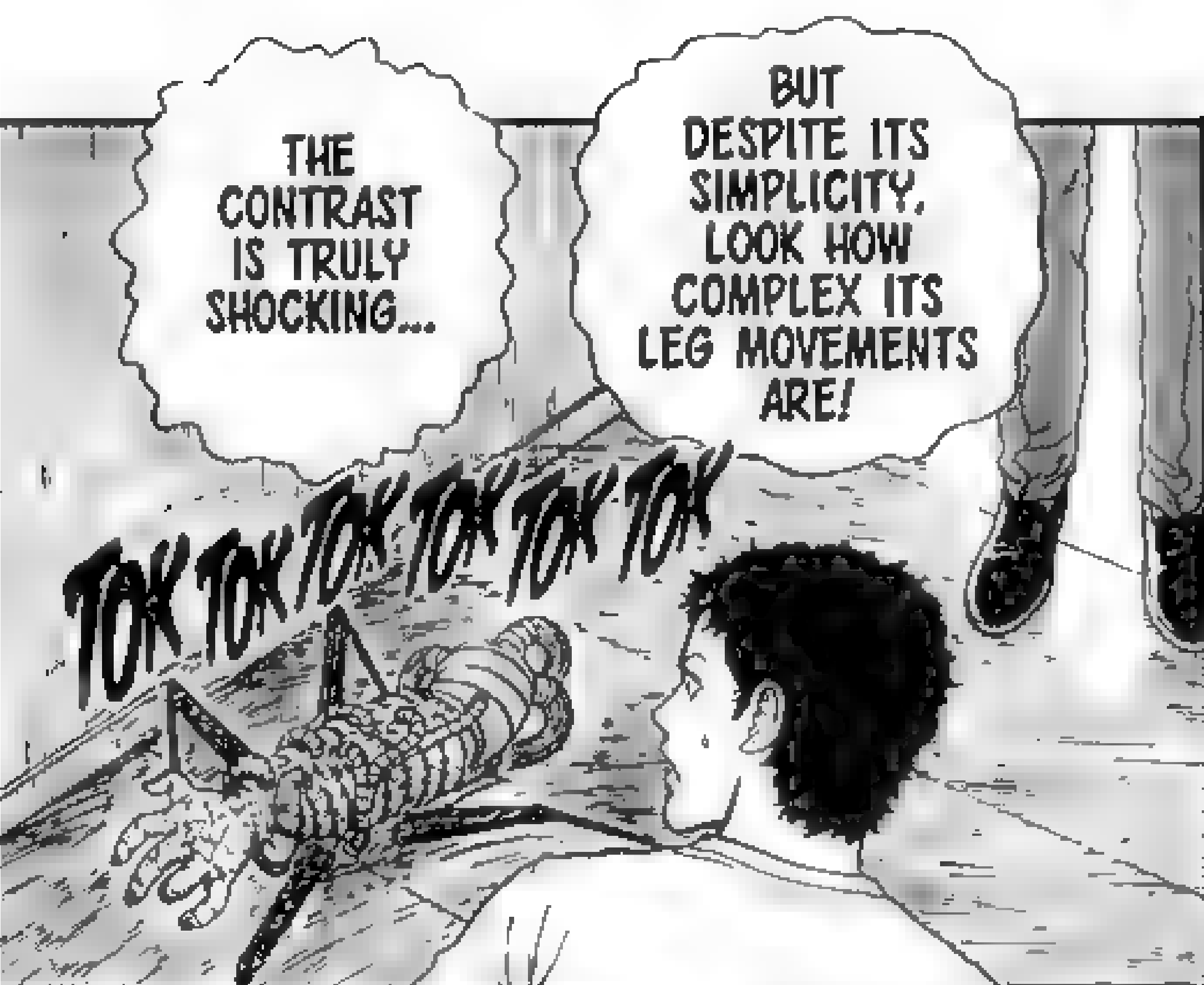
I WAS EXCITED, SO I TOOK IT APART TO SEE HOW IT WORKED.



...AND TUBES WHOSE GAS PRESSURE MOVES THE LEGS.

BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE VERY SIMPLE, BASICALLY IT'S MADE UP OF PISTONS AND CYLINDERS...

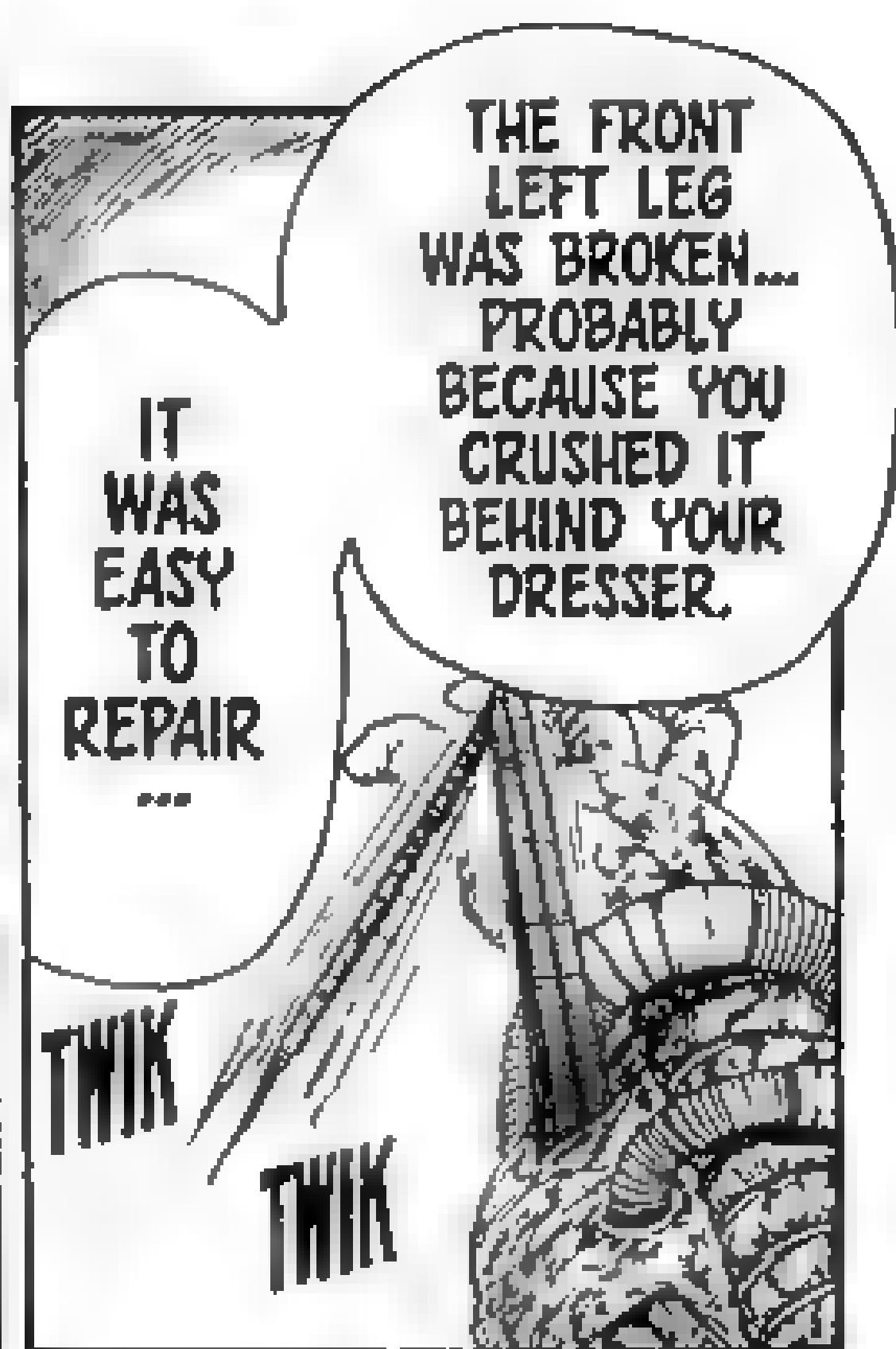
Exhaust



THE  
CONTRAST  
IS TRULY  
SHOCKING...

BUT  
DESPITE ITS  
SIMPLICITY,  
LOOK HOW  
COMPLEX ITS  
LEG MOVEMENTS  
ARE!

TOK TOK TOK TOK TOK TOK

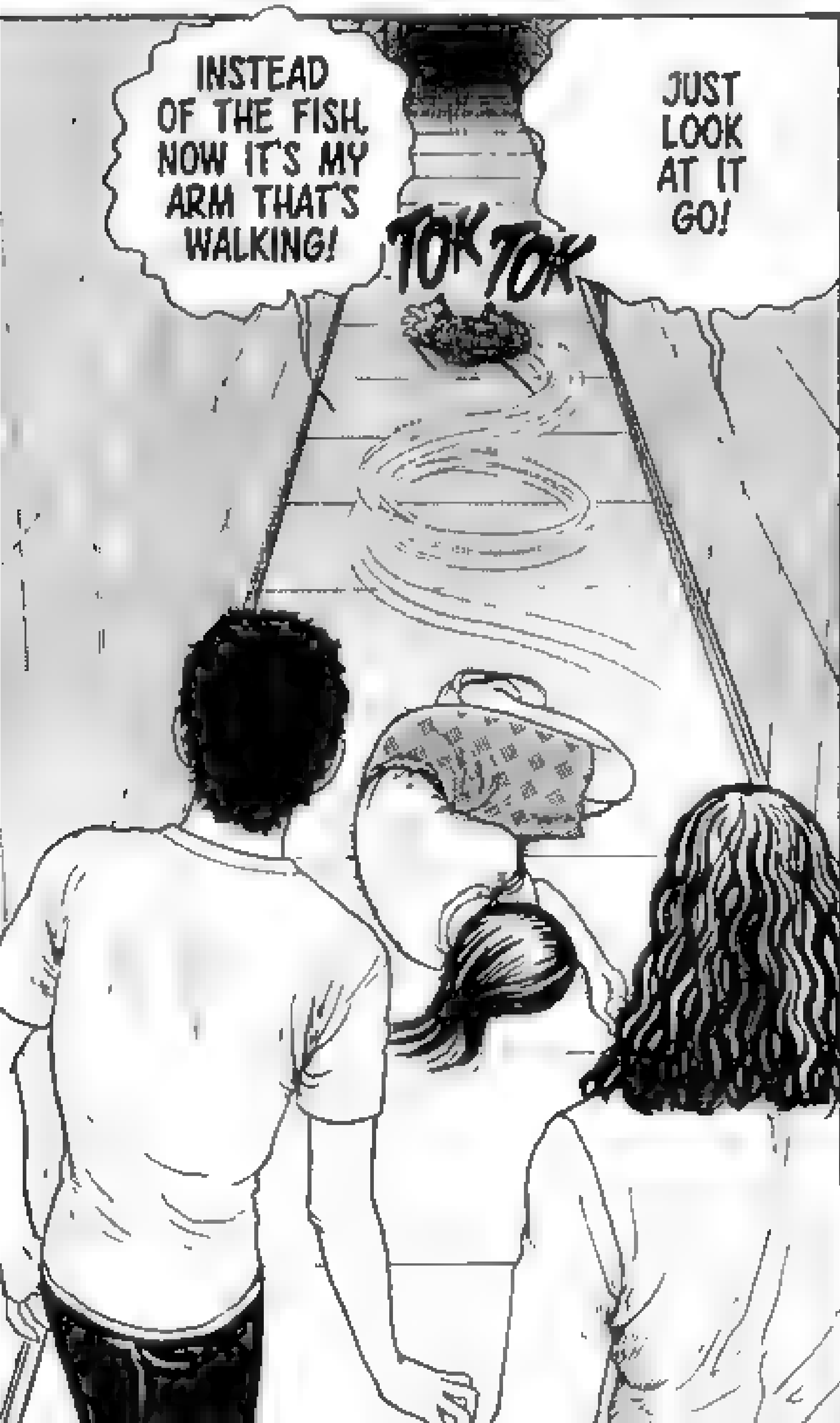


IT  
WAS  
EASY  
TO  
REPAIR  
...

THE FRONT  
LEFT LEG  
WAS BROKEN...  
PROBABLY  
BECAUSE YOU  
CRUSHED IT  
BEHIND YOUR  
DRESSER.

TWIK

TWIK



INSTEAD  
OF THE FISH,  
NOW IT'S MY  
ARM THAT'S  
WALKING!

JUST  
LOOK  
AT IT  
GO!

TOK TOK

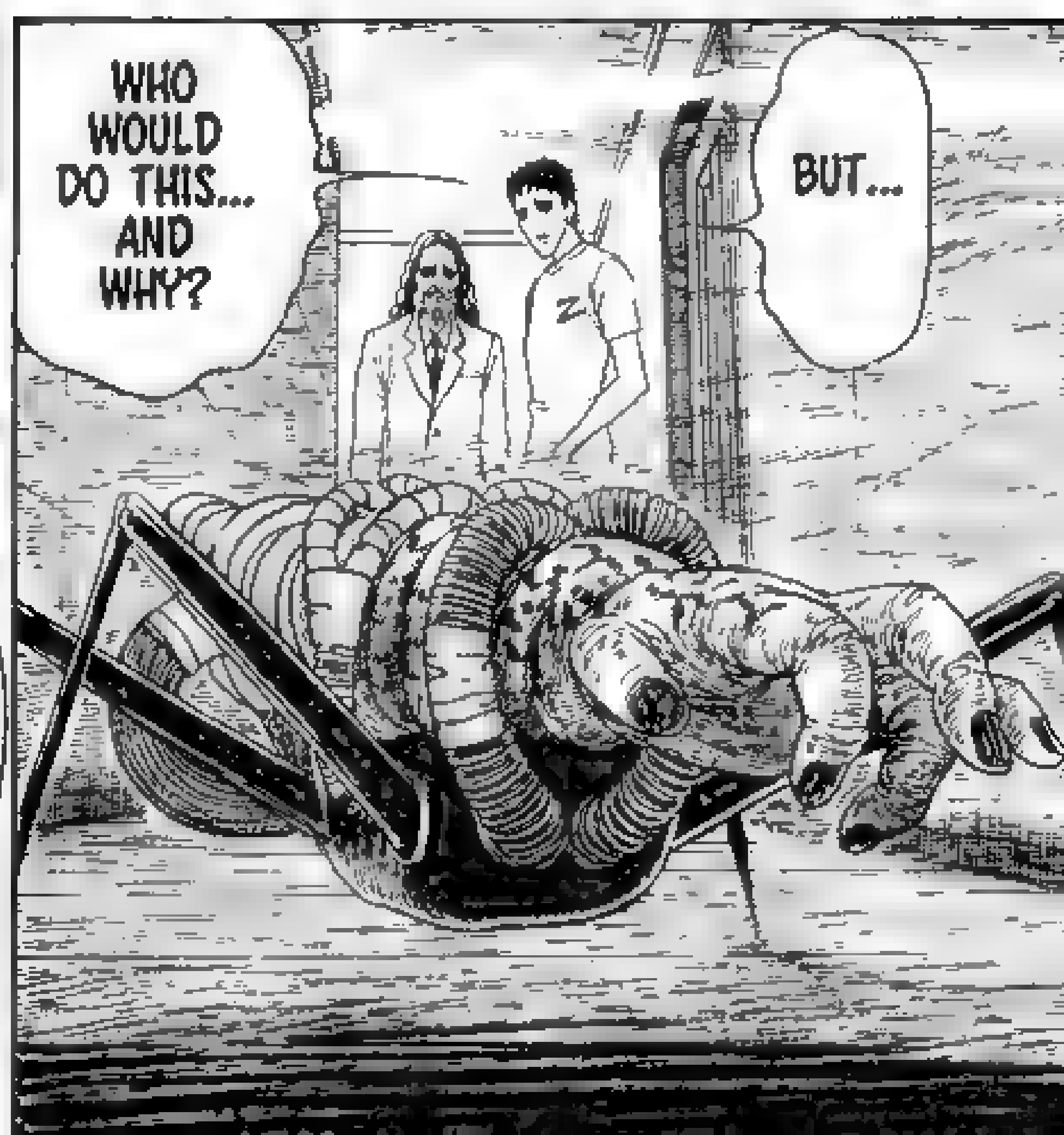
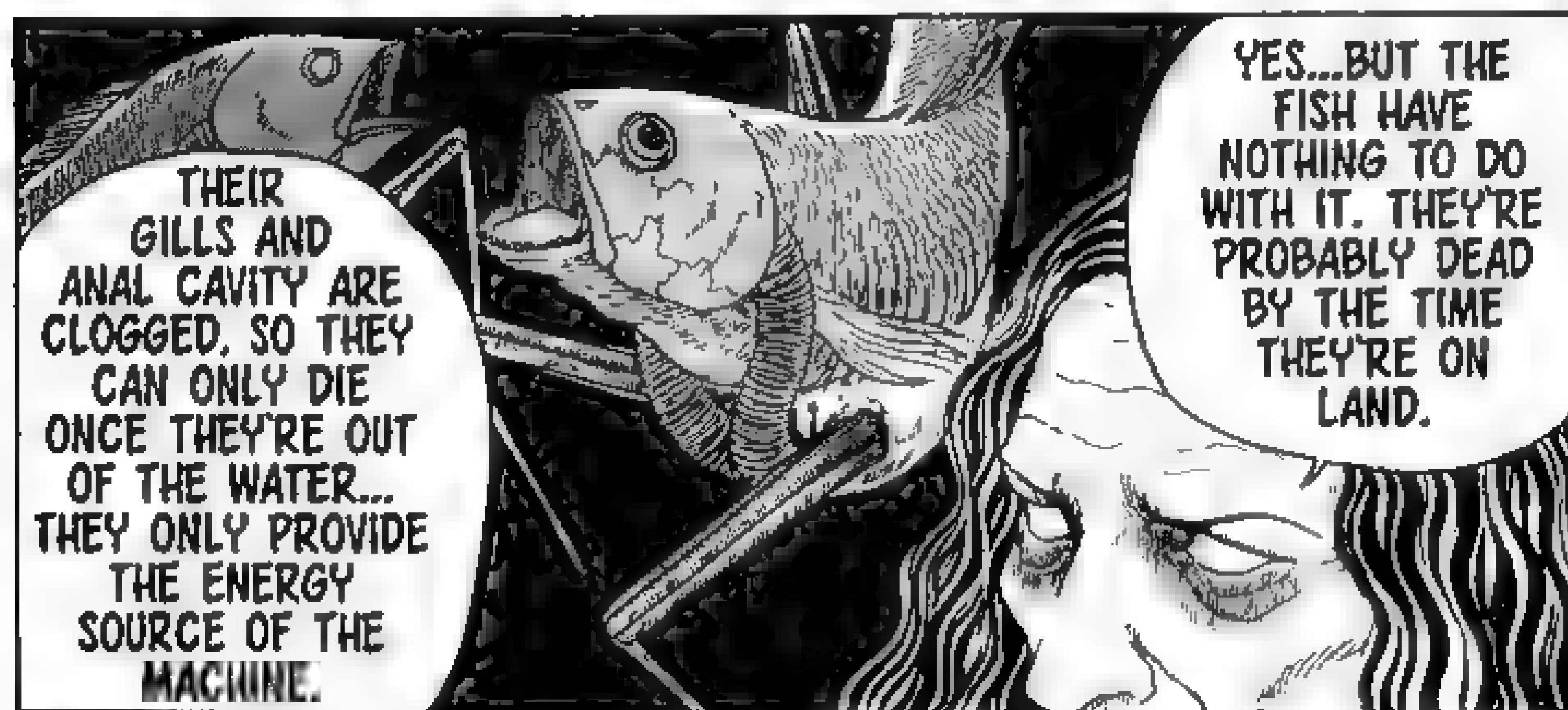


TOK

I BELIEVE THIS  
ARTICULATION  
IS DUE TO THE  
GERM'S IRREGULAR  
PRODUCTION  
OF GAS.

TOK  
TOK TOK  
TOK

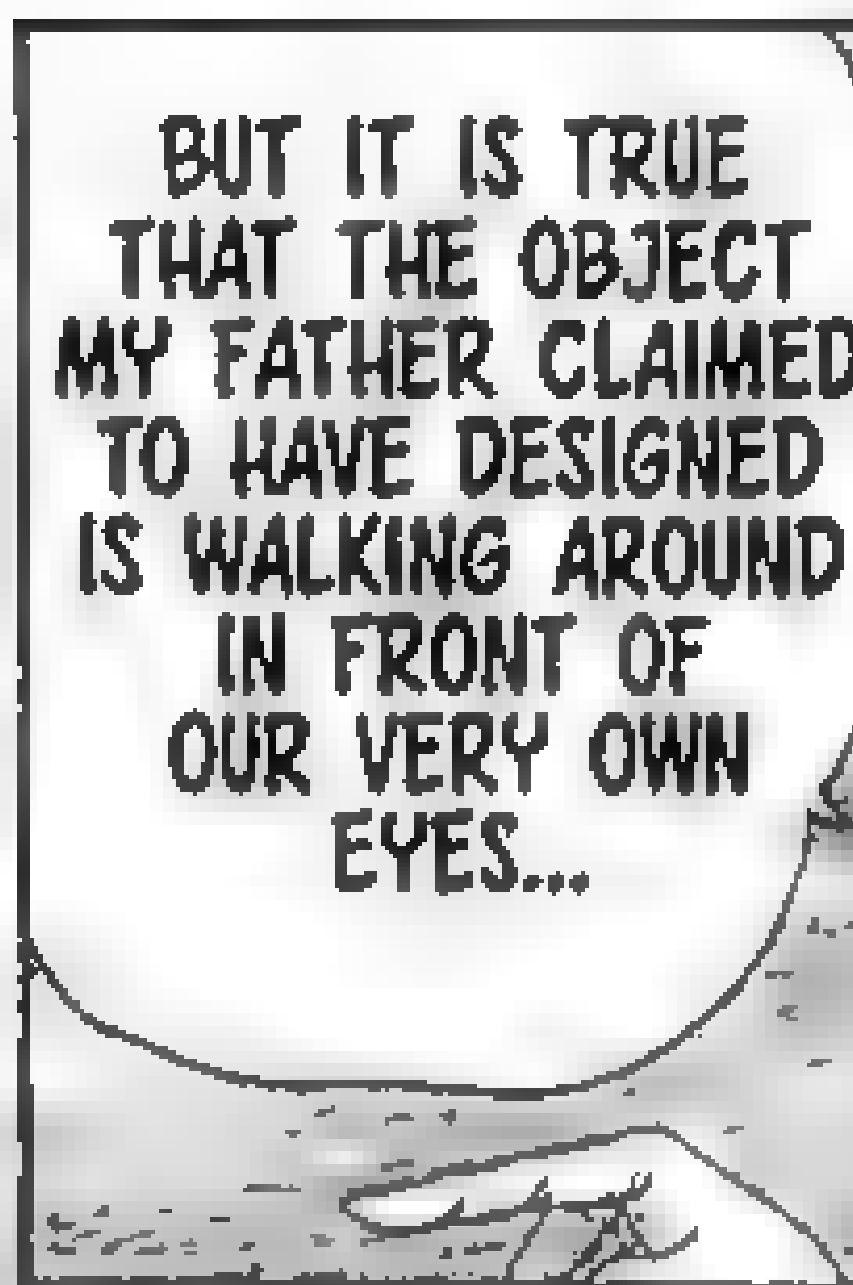
THIS  
MACHINE  
MOVES  
LIKE AN  
ORGANISM  
BECAUSE  
THE GERM  
IS ALIVE!





THE  
GERMS  
...

BUT  
THEN  
...



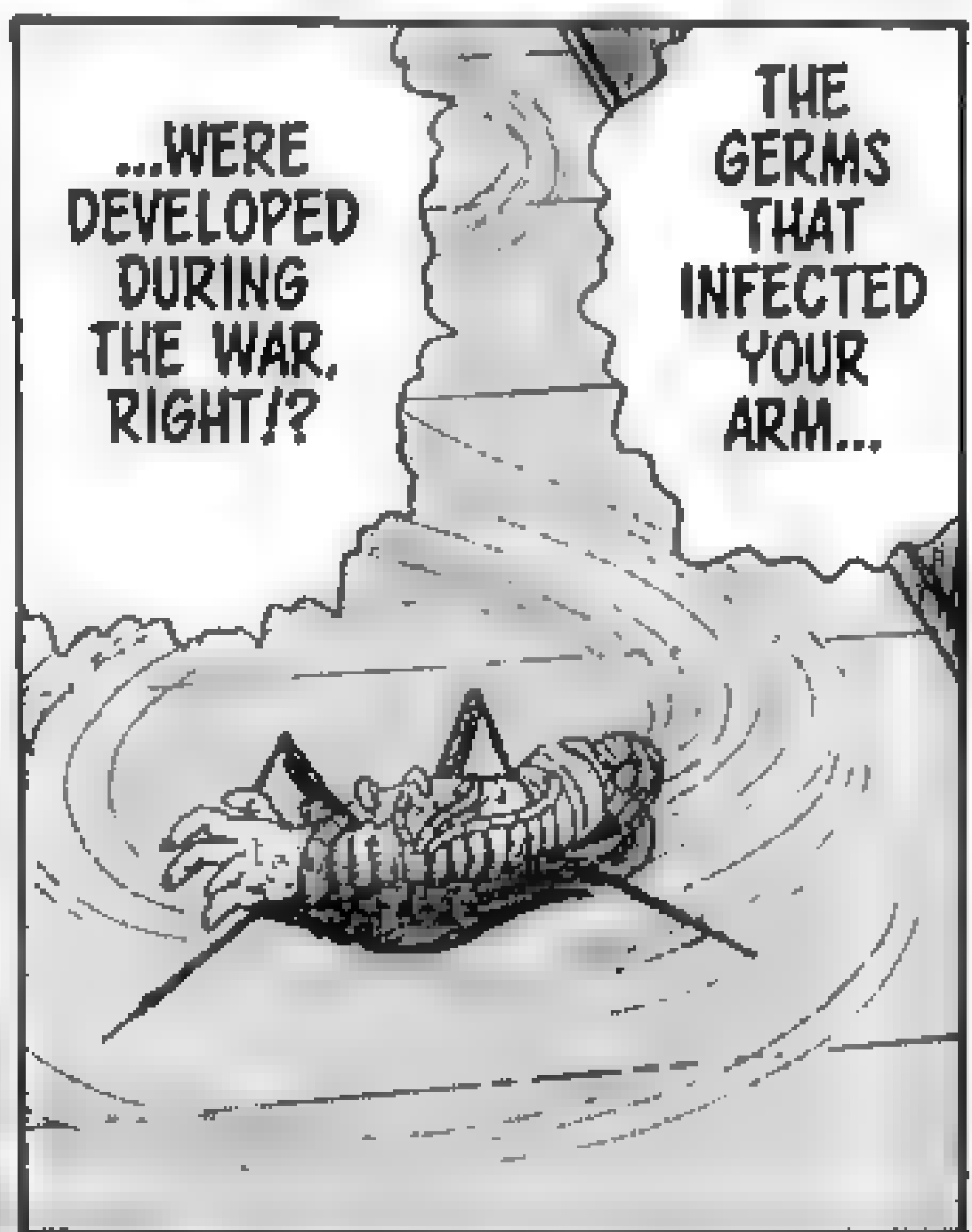
BUT IT IS TRUE  
THAT THE OBJECT  
MY FATHER CLAIMED  
TO HAVE DESIGNED  
IS WALKING AROUND  
IN FRONT OF  
OUR VERY OWN  
EYES...



WELL...  
I  
DON'T  
KNOW...



CAN  
IT  
INFECT  
HUMANS,  
TOO?



...WERE  
DEVELOPED  
DURING  
THE WAR,  
RIGHT!?

THE  
GERMS  
THAT  
INFECTED  
YOUR  
ARM...

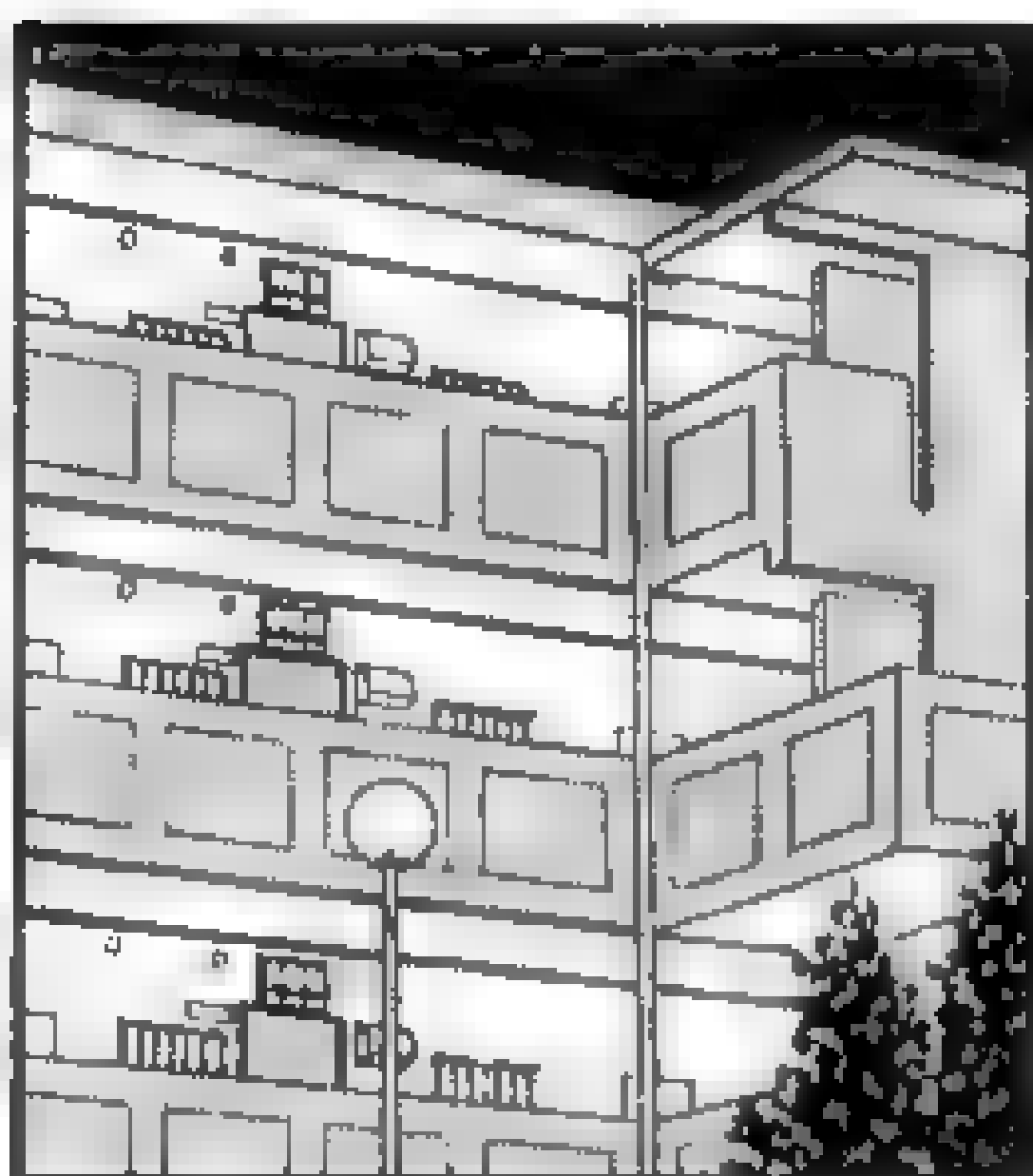


B-BUT...  
IF THE GERMS  
ARE IN THE  
GAS, THEY  
MUST BE  
EVERYWHERE  
BY NOW!

CALM  
DOWN, TADASHI.  
THAT WAS  
JUST SOME  
NONSENSE MY  
FATHER CAME  
UP WITH.

ALTHOUGH THE INFESTATION IS HEAVIEST BY THE COAST, IN SOME AREAS FISH HAVE BEEN SIGHTED AS FAR AS 15KM INLAND.

HERE IS THE LATEST NEWS. THE 'WALKING FISH' ARE IN WESTERN JAPAN.



WE DON'T HAVE A CASUALTY COUNT AT THIS TIME.

IN METROPOLITAN AREAS, FATAL AUTOMOBILE COLLISIONS WITH LARGER FISH HAVE CLOSED STREETS.

...AS WELL AS LOCALS SUFFERING NAUSEA FROM THE SMELL.

HOSPITALS ARE RECEIVING PATIENTS WHO HAVE BEEN INJURED AND RUN OVER BY THE FISH...

[YAMADA]

AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE TO PREVENT THE INVASION

...WITH CONCERNS THAT THEY WILL SOON MAKE THEIR WAY INTO THE KANTO REGION.

...

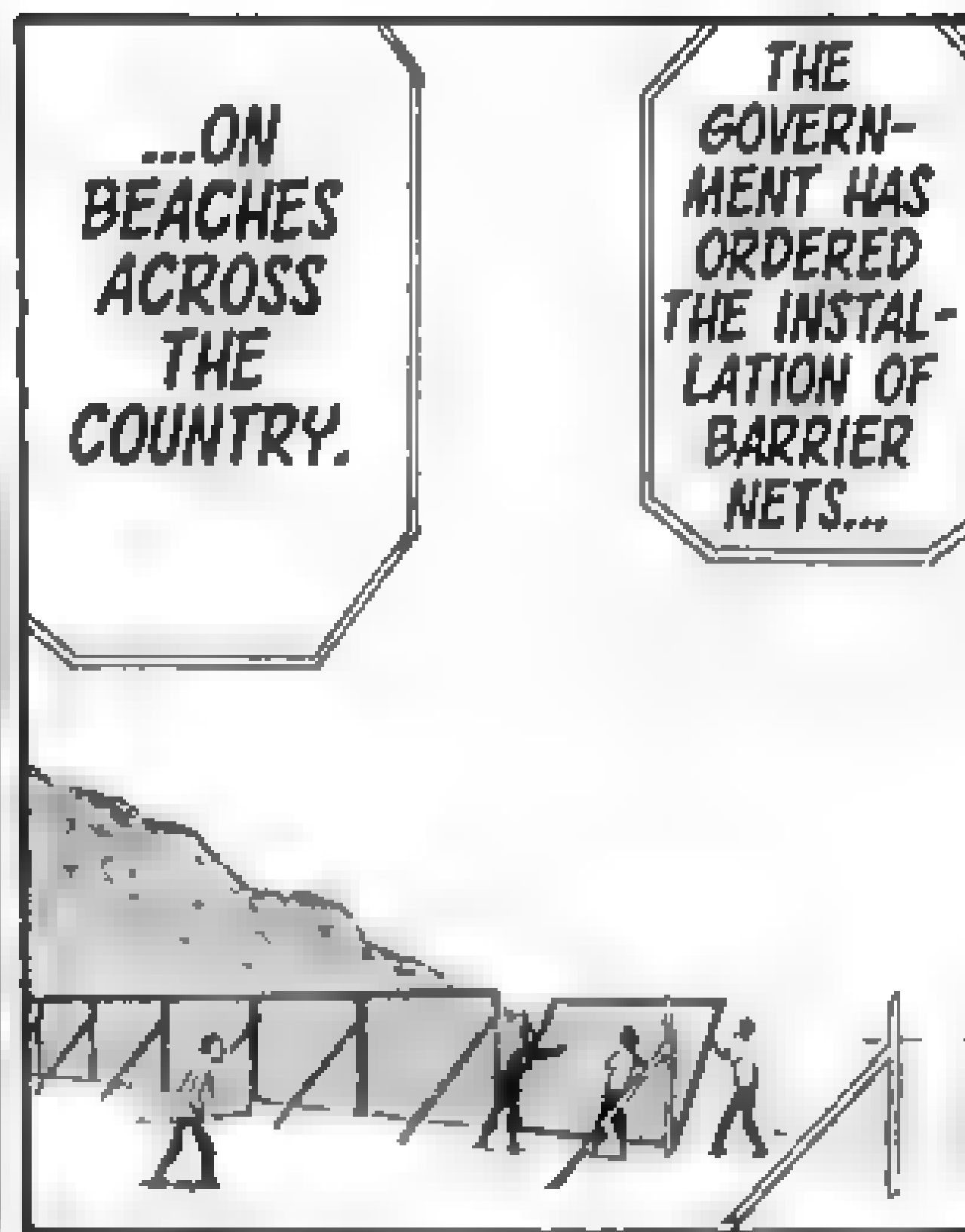
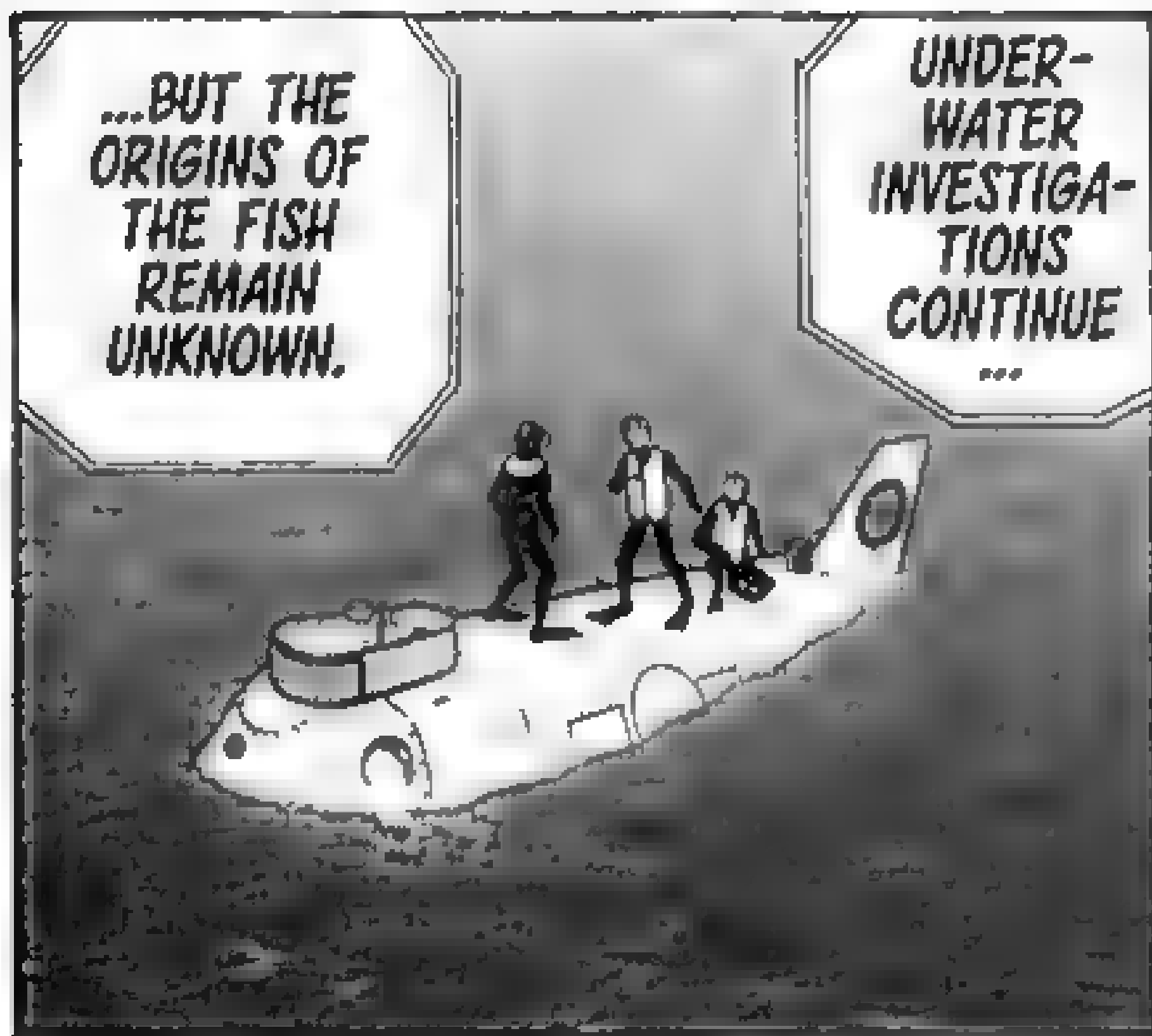
[YAMADA]

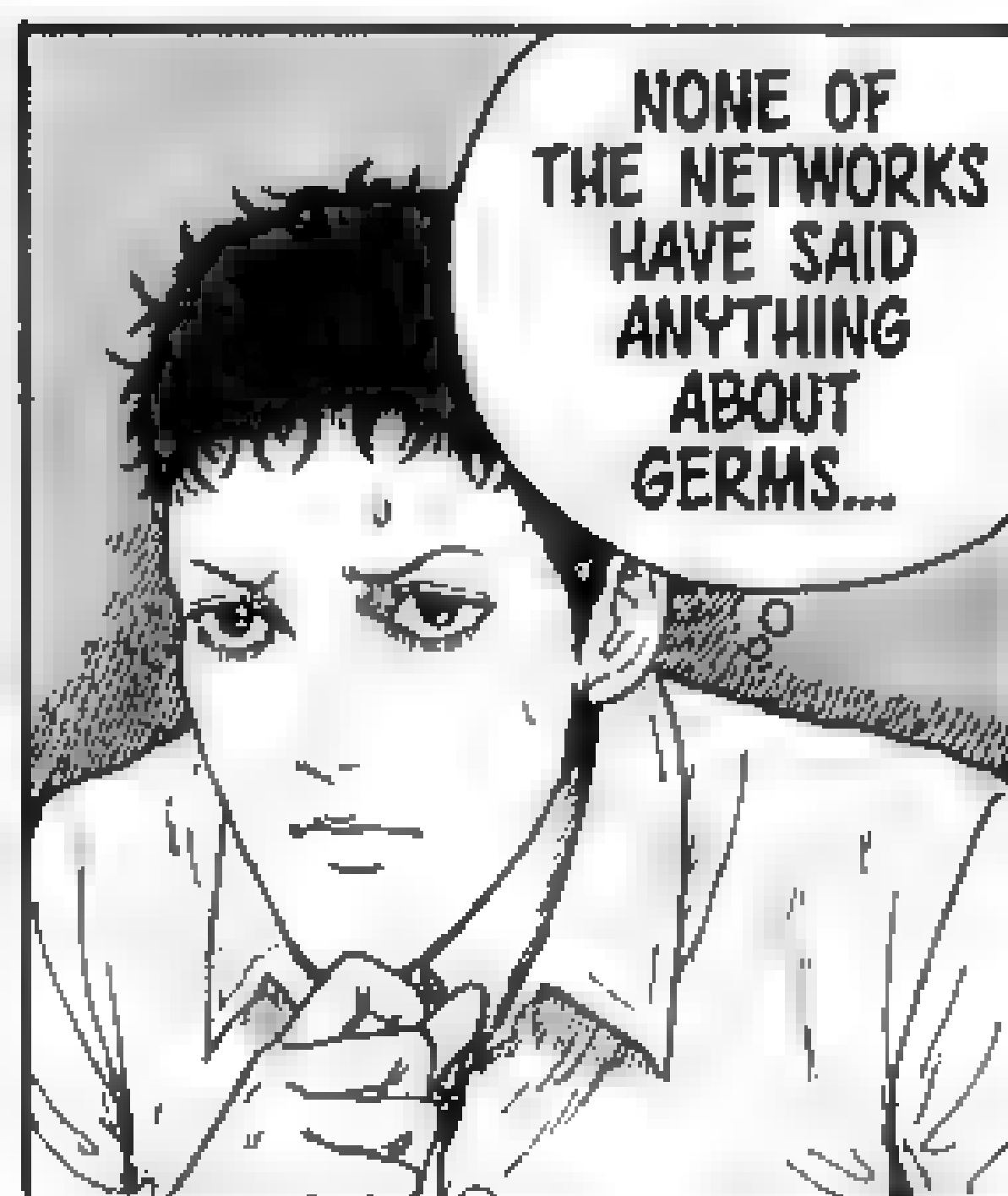
FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE REPORTS OF WALKING FISH IN TOKYO BAY...

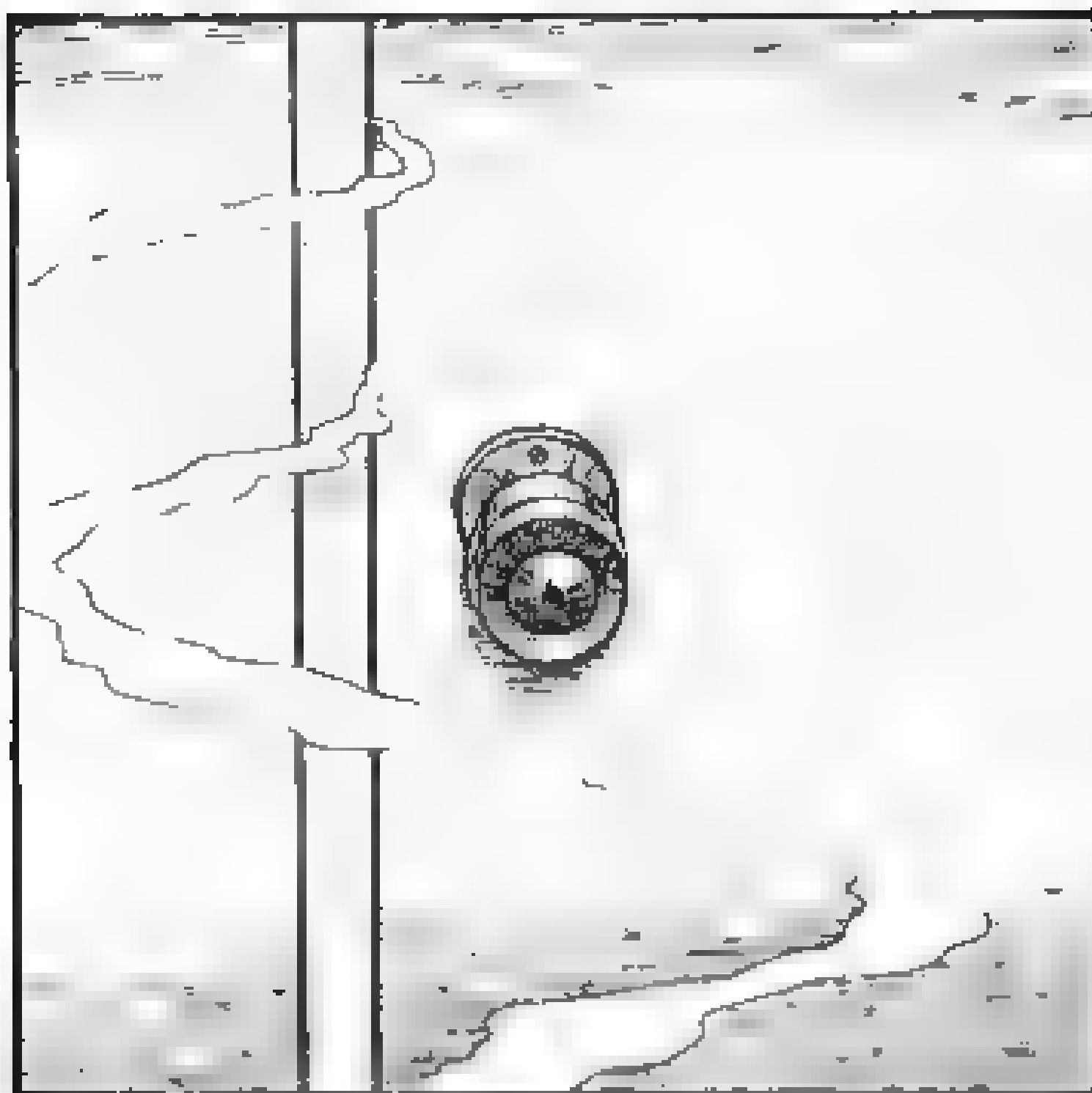
ALL FISHING AND ACTIVITY IN JAPAN'S PORTS HAVE COME TO A HALT AS THE GOVERNMENT ISSUED A STRICT ADVISORY AGAINST PRIVATE MARINE TRAVEL.

[YAMADA]













YOU  
GET  
OUT!!

NO!



KAORI...  
GET OUT  
OF THE  
ROOM!

THIS  
IS  
AWFUL!



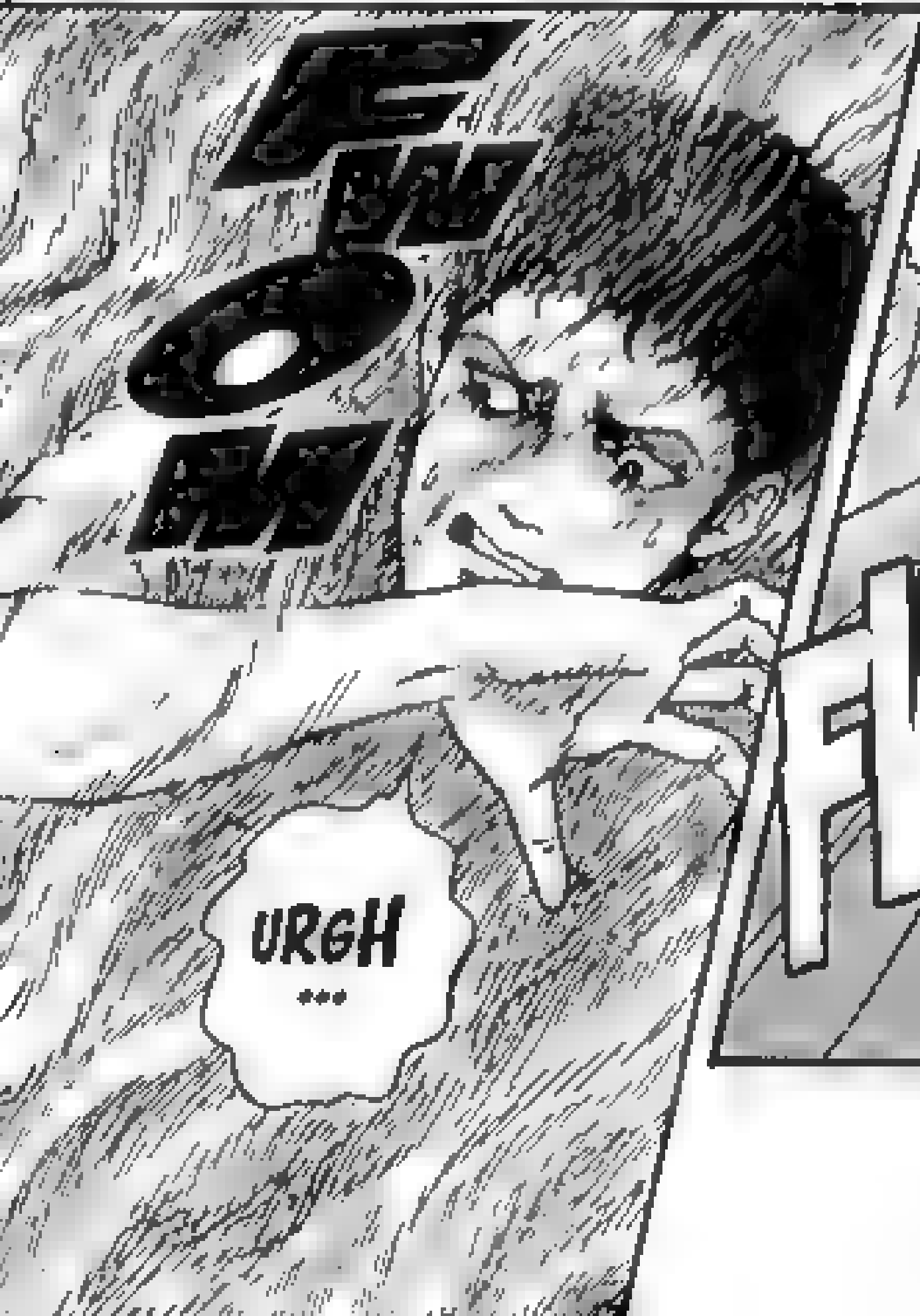
FSSSSHHHHHH

HUH  
?!



I  
THOUGHT  
YOU  
HATED  
IT!

DON'T BE  
CRAZY!  
HOW CAN  
YOU STAND  
THIS  
SMELL?!



URGH  
...



KAORI  
!!

FWOOSH



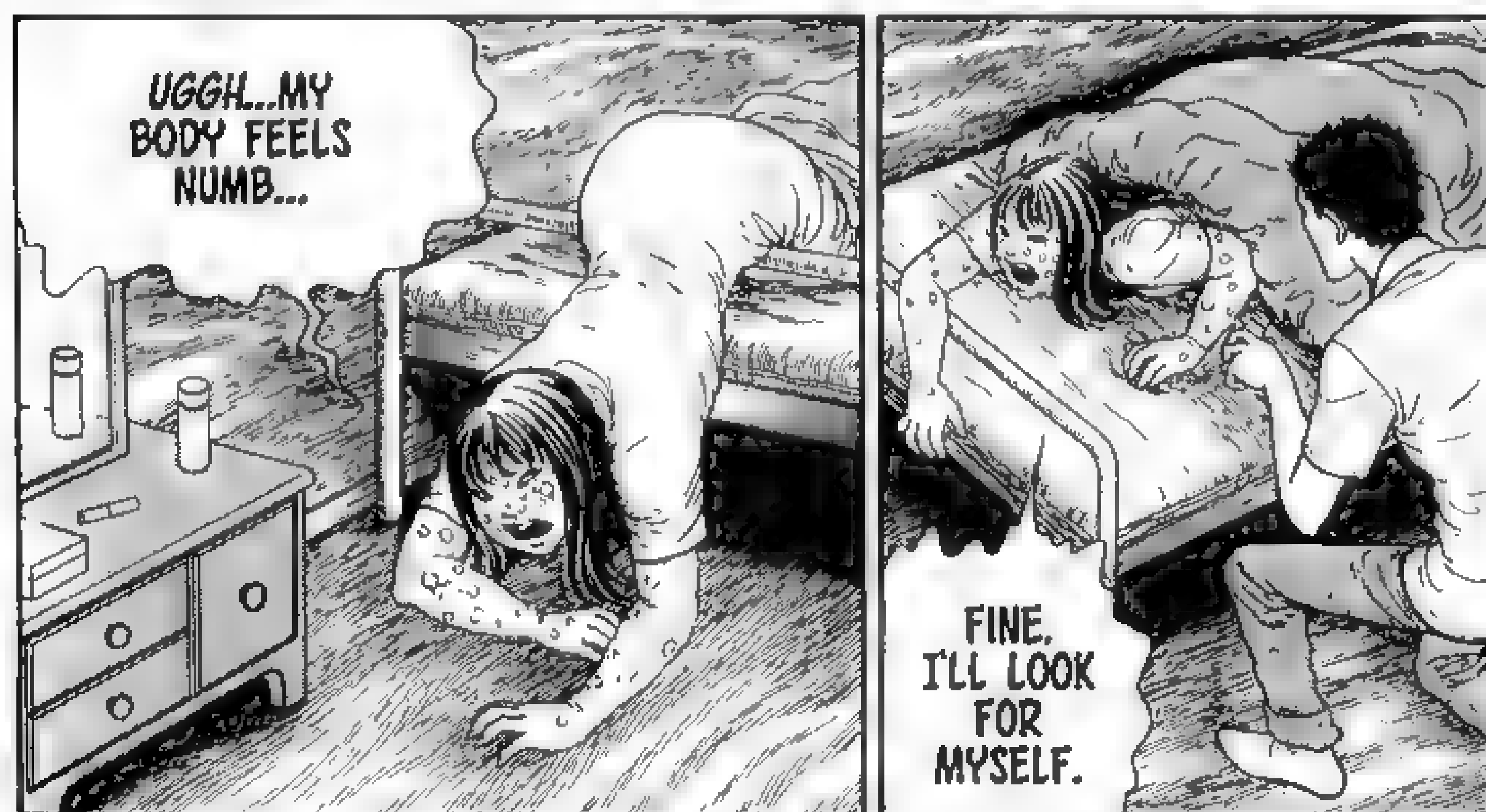
DID YOU  
HEAR THAT,  
KAORI? IT'S  
THE SOUND  
OF THE  
CREATURE!!

THE  
CREATURE'S  
IN THIS  
ROOM!!











**I  
SMELL  
LIKE  
THOSE  
MONSTERS  
!!**

**FSSHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH**

**AHH...  
THAT  
SMELL...  
IT'S THE  
SMELL  
OF  
THOSE  
MONSTERS  
!!**

**I  
SMELL  
LIKE  
THOSE  
MONSTERS  
!!**

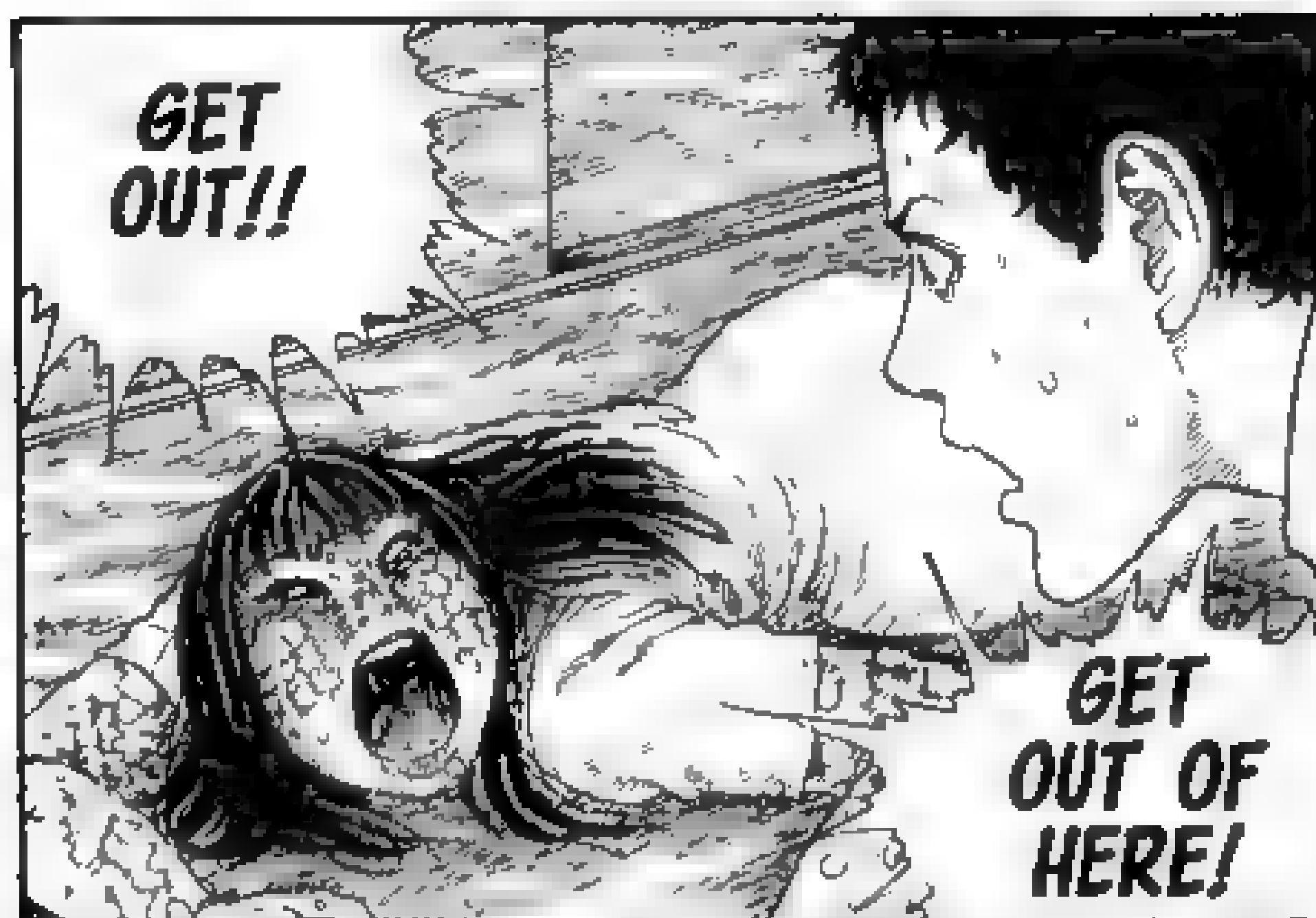
**FSSHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH**

**AHH...  
THAT  
SMELL...  
IT'S THE  
SMELL  
OF  
THOSE  
MONSTERS  
!!**

**I  
SMELL  
LIKE  
THOSE  
MONSTERS  
!!**

**FSSHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH**

**AHH...  
THAT  
SMELL...  
IT'S THE  
SMELL  
OF  
THOSE  
MONSTERS  
!!**



GET  
OUT!!

GET  
OUT OF  
HERE!



CALM  
DOWN  
...

KAORI  
...



ESHAH HA HA



WHAT  
IS  
GOING  
ON?

WH...

**THE  
WALKING  
FISH HAVE  
ENTERED  
THE KANTO  
AREA!**

**WE  
INTERRUPT  
THIS PROGRAM  
TO BRING  
YOU THIS  
EMERGENCY  
REPORT!!**

**IN  
ADDITION TO  
SURUGA BAY AND  
SAGAMI BAY,  
THEY ARE NOW  
SWARMING THE  
KUJUKURIHAMA  
AREA AS  
WELL!!**

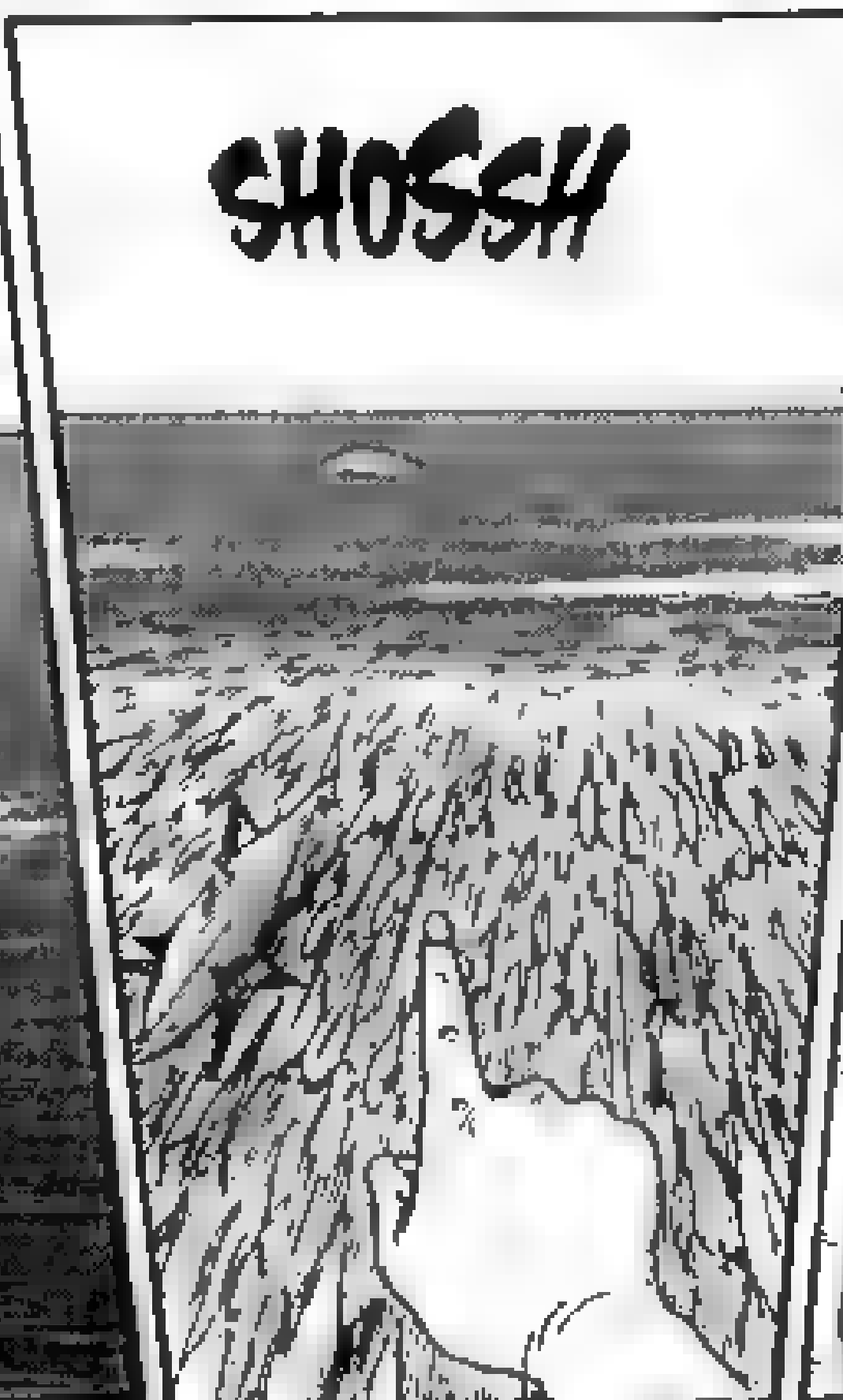
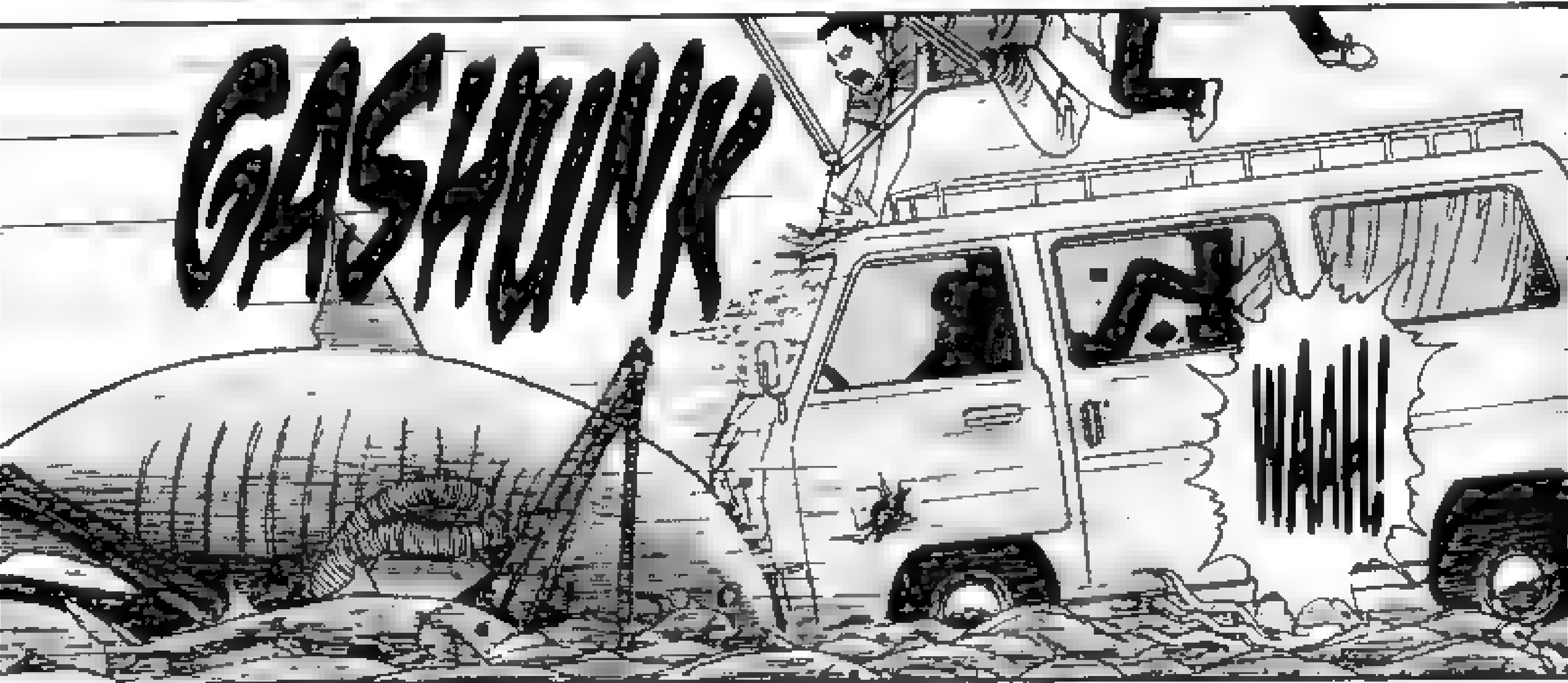
**THE  
BARRIER  
NETS HAVE  
PROVEN TO BE  
COMPLETELY  
INEFFECTIVE  
IN HOLDING  
BACK THE  
INVASION!**

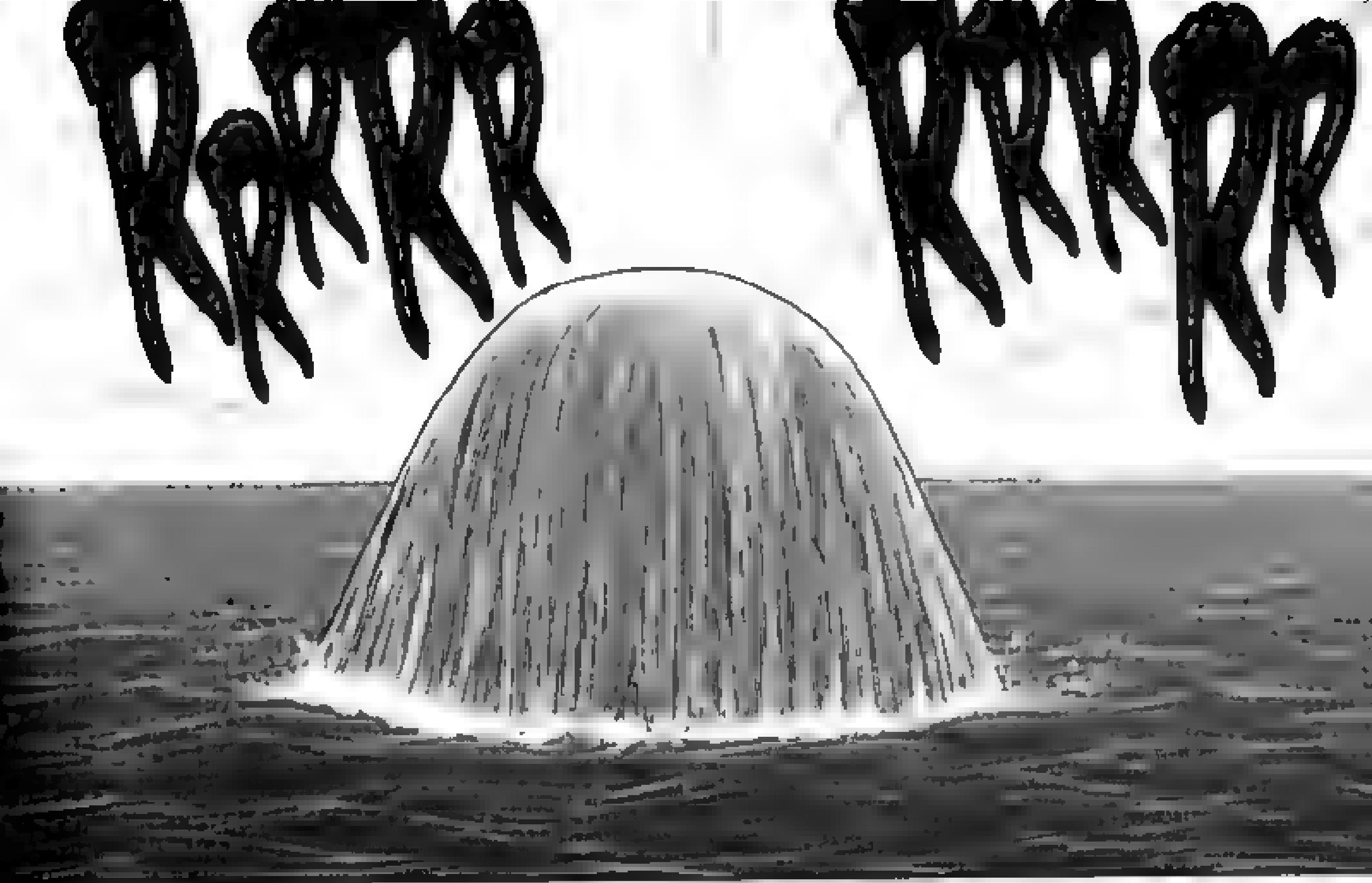
**THEY  
ARE  
SWARMING...  
THIS USED  
TO BE A  
BEACH!**

**WE  
HAVE  
THIS LIVE  
BROADCAST!**

**9 / The Death-  
Stench Invades  
Part 1**



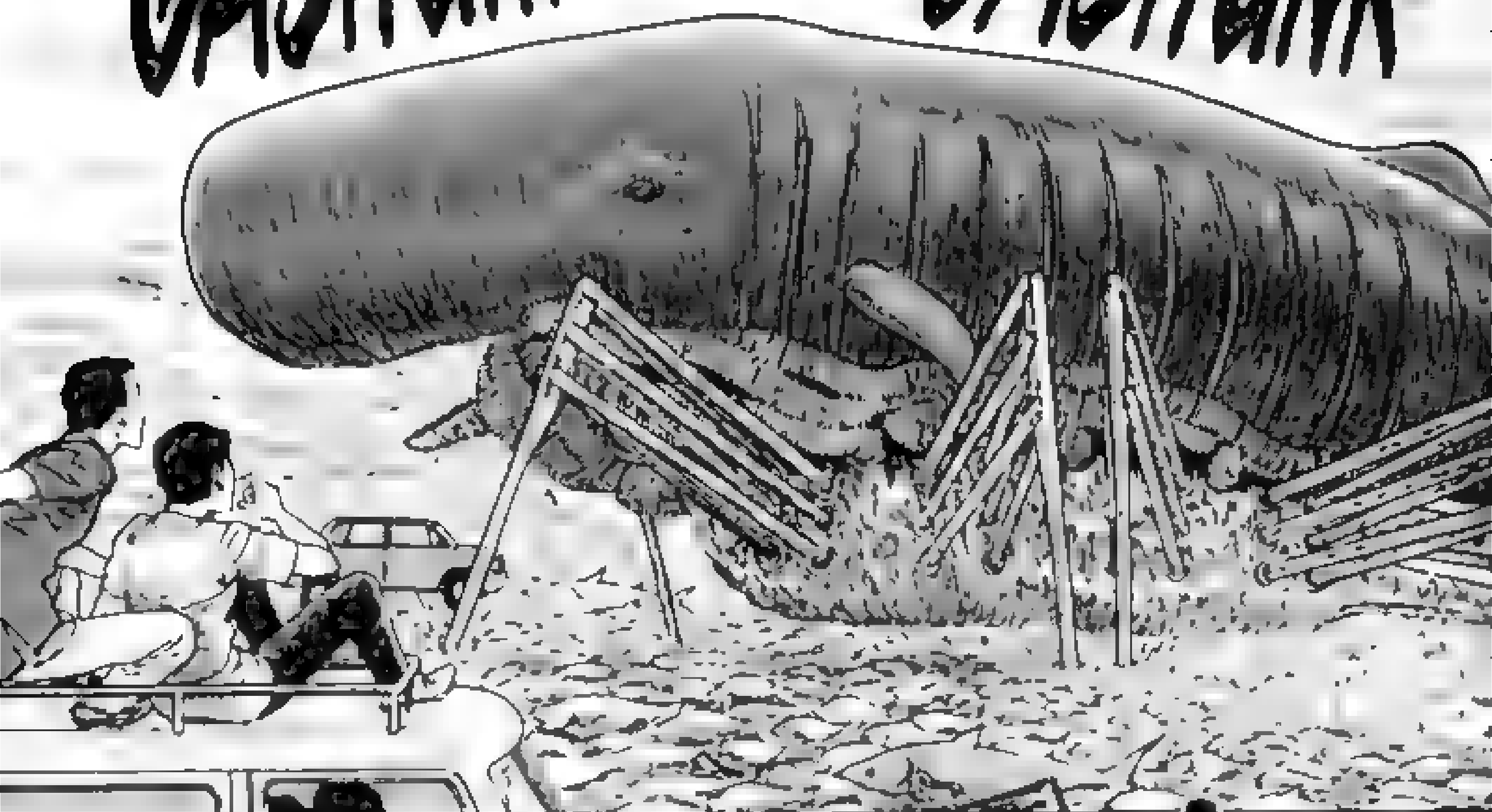


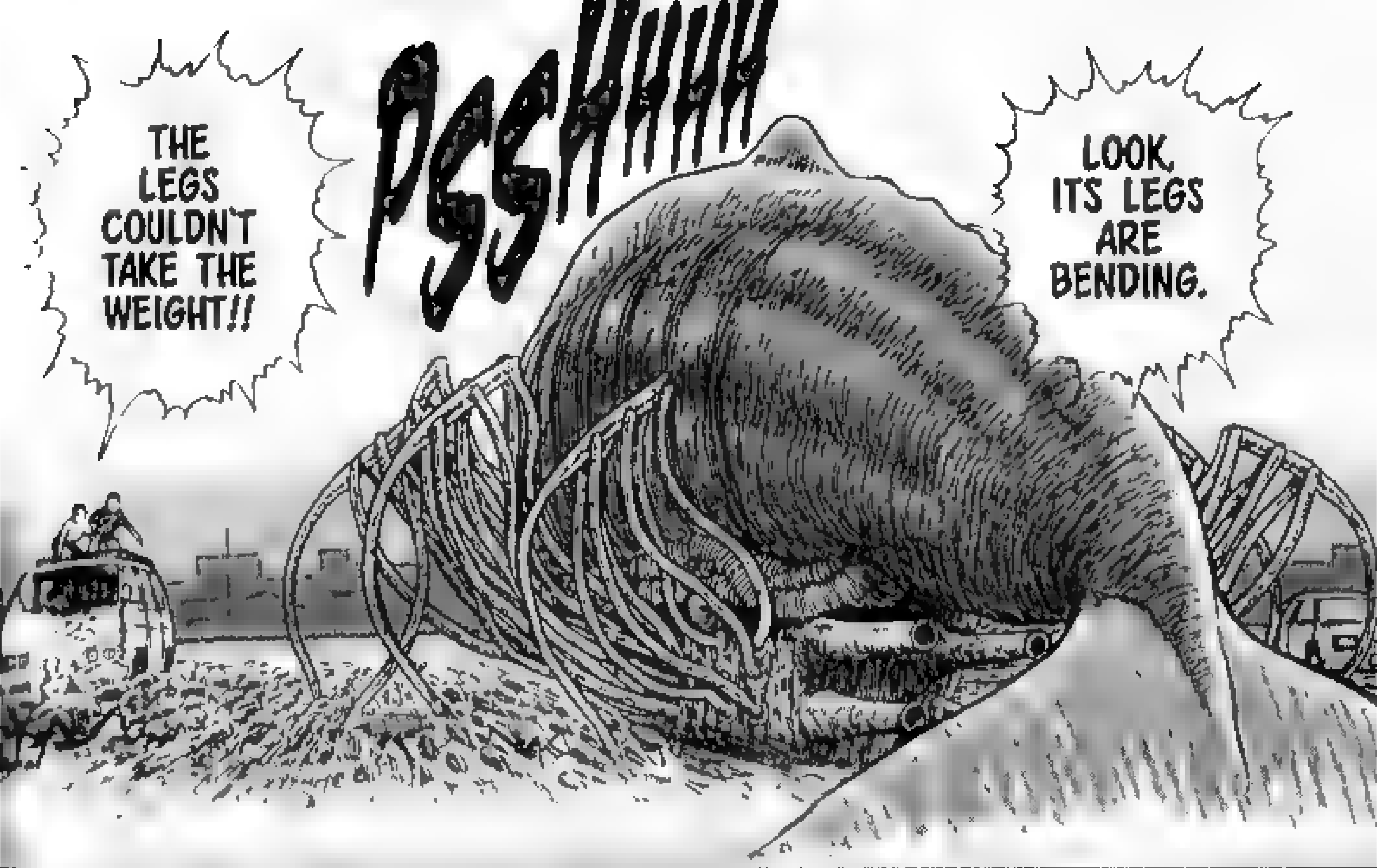




**GASHUNK**

**GASHUNK**





THE  
LEGS  
COULDN'T  
TAKE THE  
WEIGHT!!

PSHHHHH

LOOK,  
ITS LEGS  
ARE  
BENDING.



MY  
CAMERA  
FELL OFF THE  
TRUCK!!

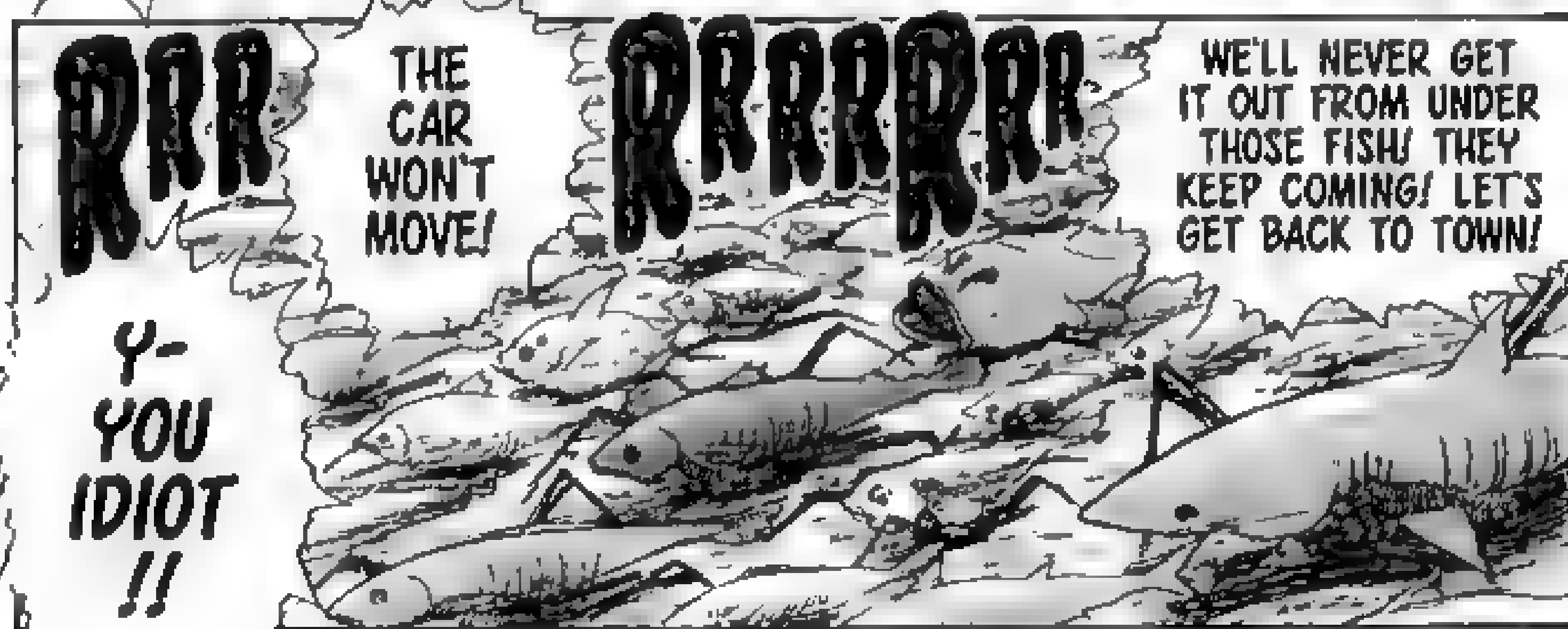
HEY,  
DID YOU  
GET  
THAT?

WHAT!?  
YOU  
IDIOT!!



WHAT  
...

WHAT  
THE HELL  
DO THEY  
WANT?



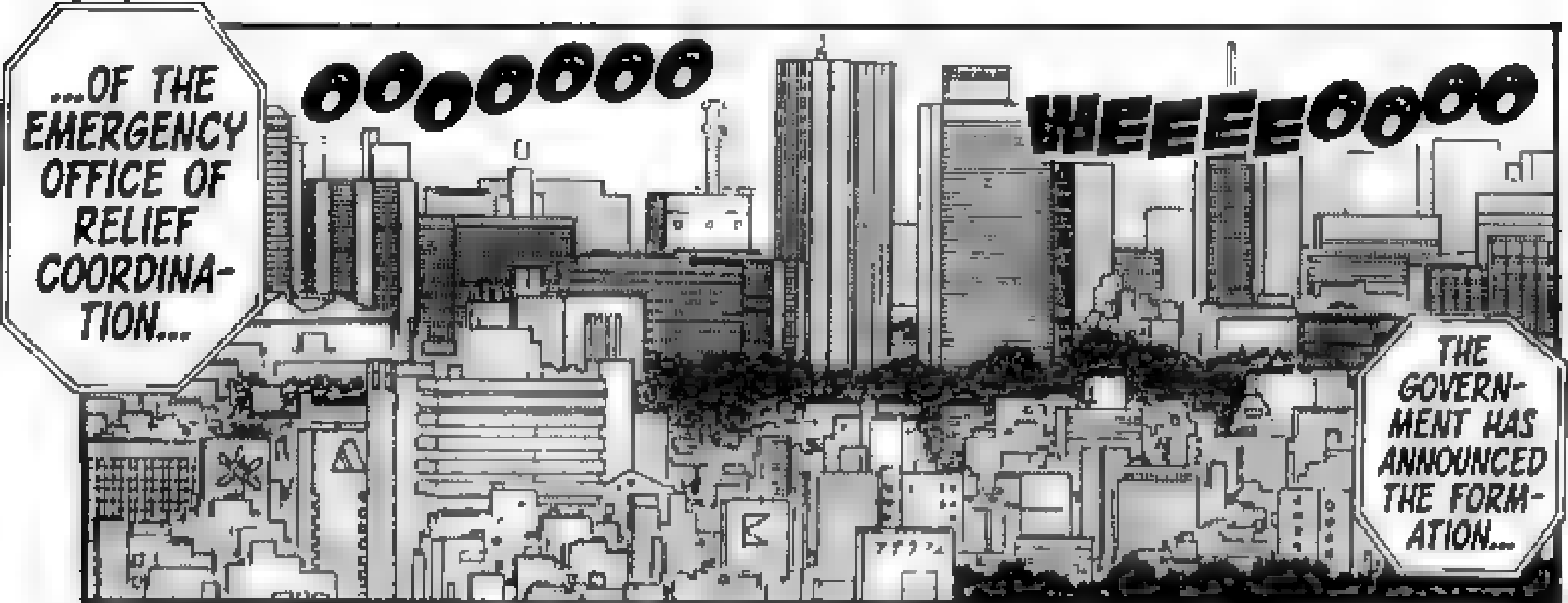
RRR

THE  
CAR  
WON'T  
MOVE!

RRRRRRRR

WE'LL NEVER GET  
IT OUT FROM UNDER  
THOSE FISH! THEY  
KEEP COMING! LET'S  
GET BACK TO TOWN!

Y-  
YOU  
IDIOT  
!!



SO  
THEY'RE  
HERE.





BE  
HONEST  
!!

YOU  
MUST THINK  
I'M  
DISGUSTING!

AND I  
CAN'T EVEN  
MOVE  
RIGHT...

THESE  
UGLY  
BOILS  
ALL OVER  
MY  
BODY...

DON'T  
YOU  
LIE  
TO  
ME!

YOU'LL  
FIND A  
PRETTIER  
WOMAN WHO  
DOESN'T  
SMELL,  
RIGHT!?

DON'T  
LIE!!  
YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
GET RID  
OF ME,  
RIGHT!?

WH-WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

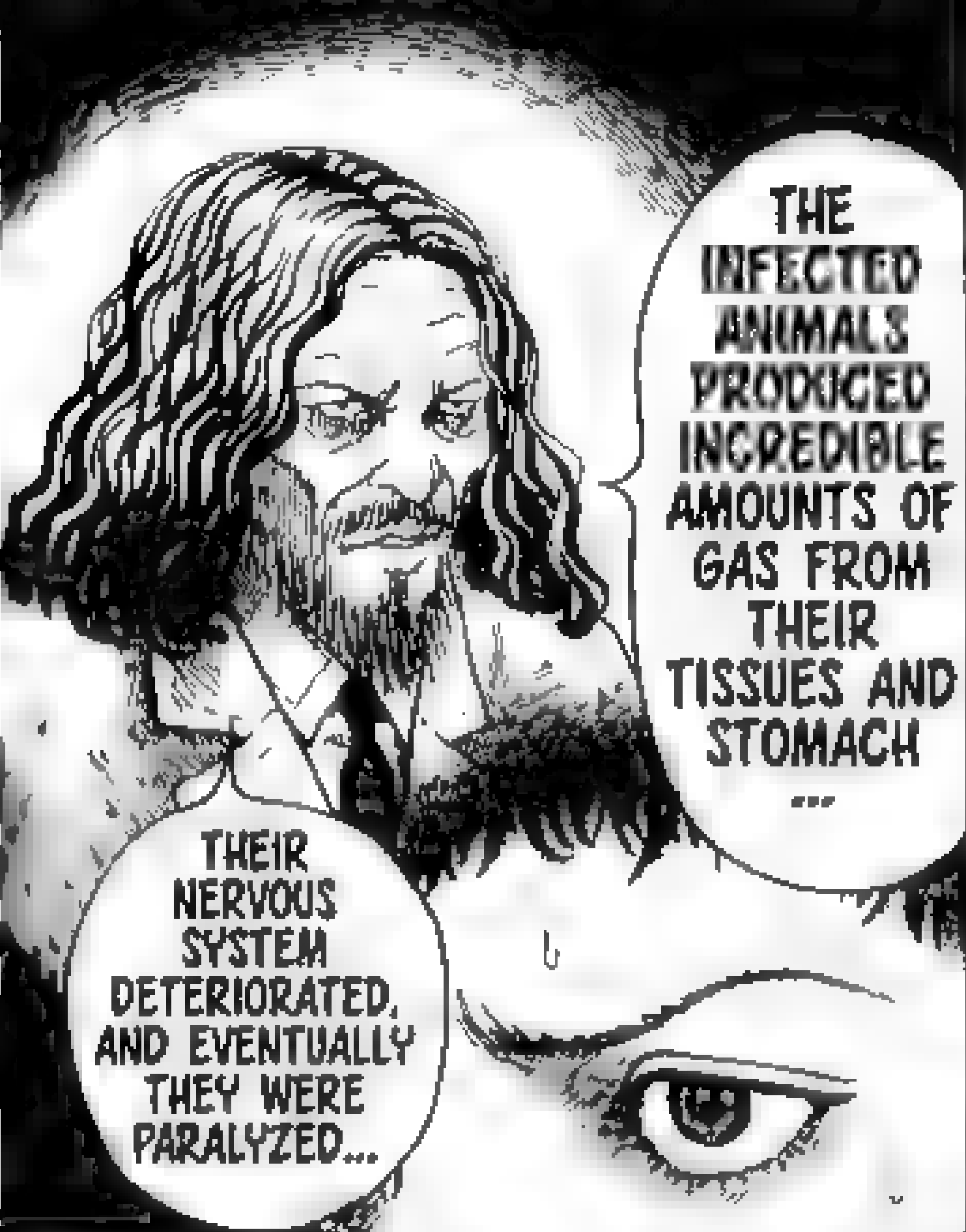
KAORI...

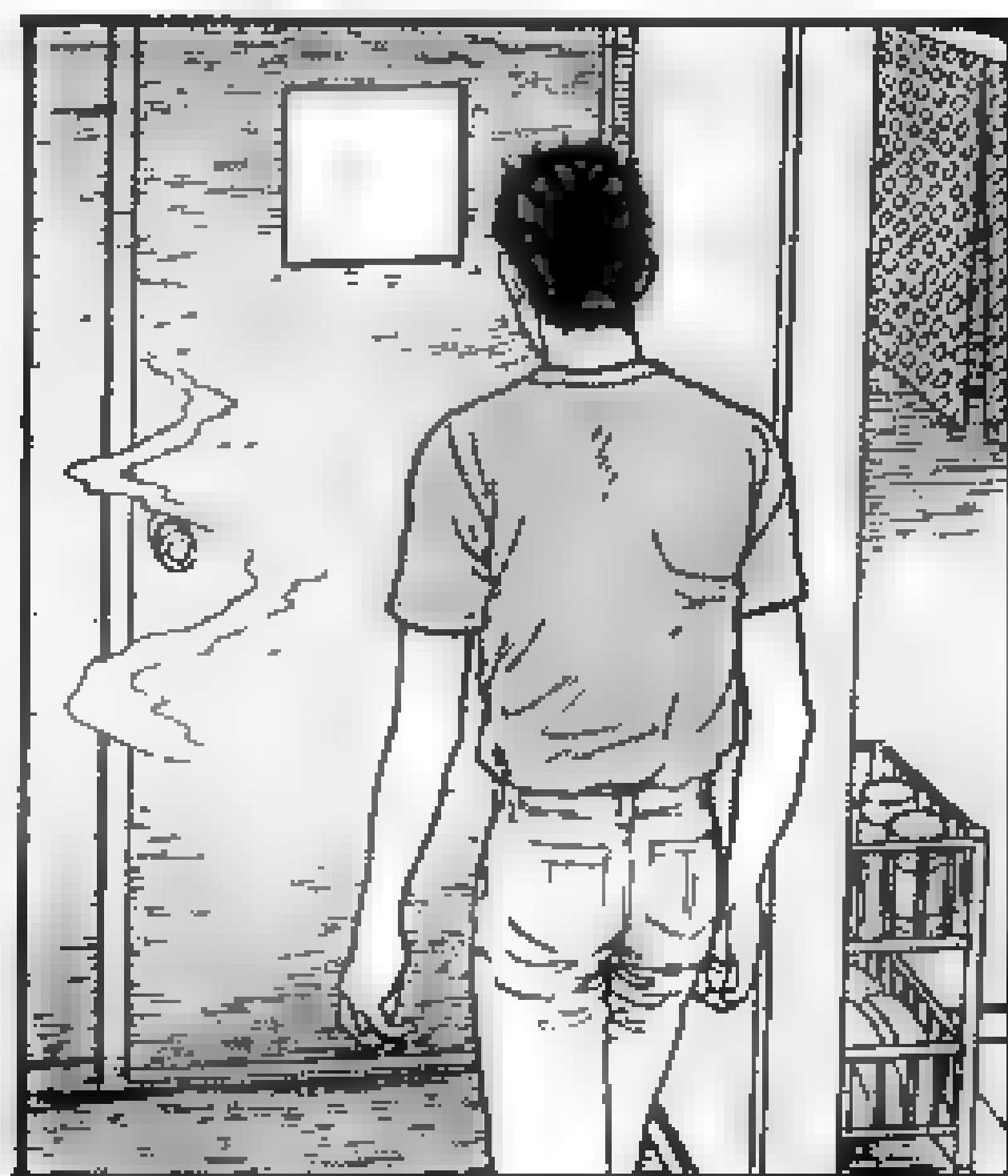
OH  
TADASHI...  
PLEASE  
DON'T  
LEAVE  
ME.

SHE'S  
PRETTY!  
YOU  
LIKE  
HER,  
DON'T  
YOU!?

THAT'S  
RIGHT...  
LIKE  
YOUR  
UNCLE'S  
LAB  
ASSISTANT...

ENOUGH!  
YOU'RE  
MAKING  
ME  
MAD!



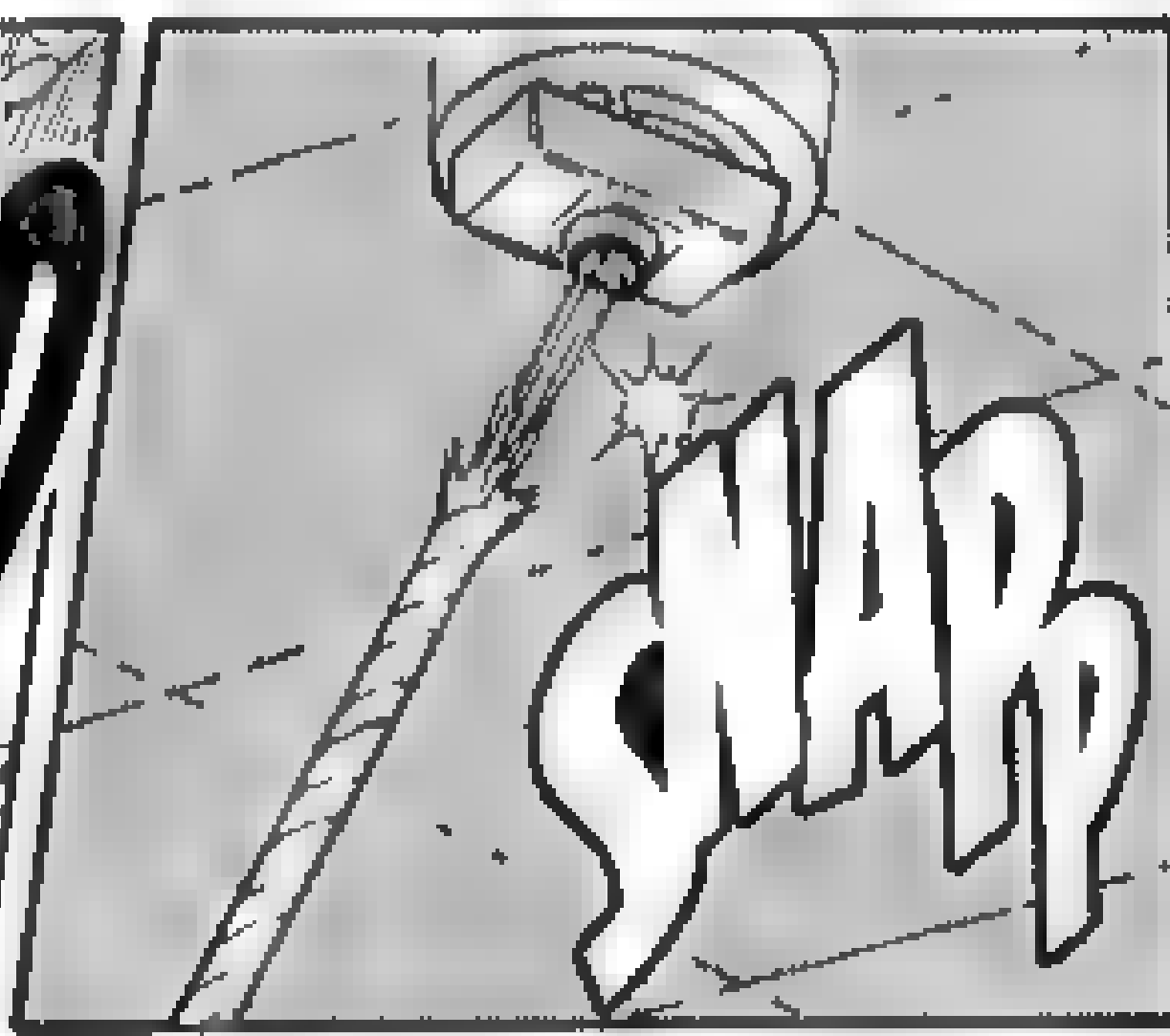








SSSSSSSSHHHHHHHHHH



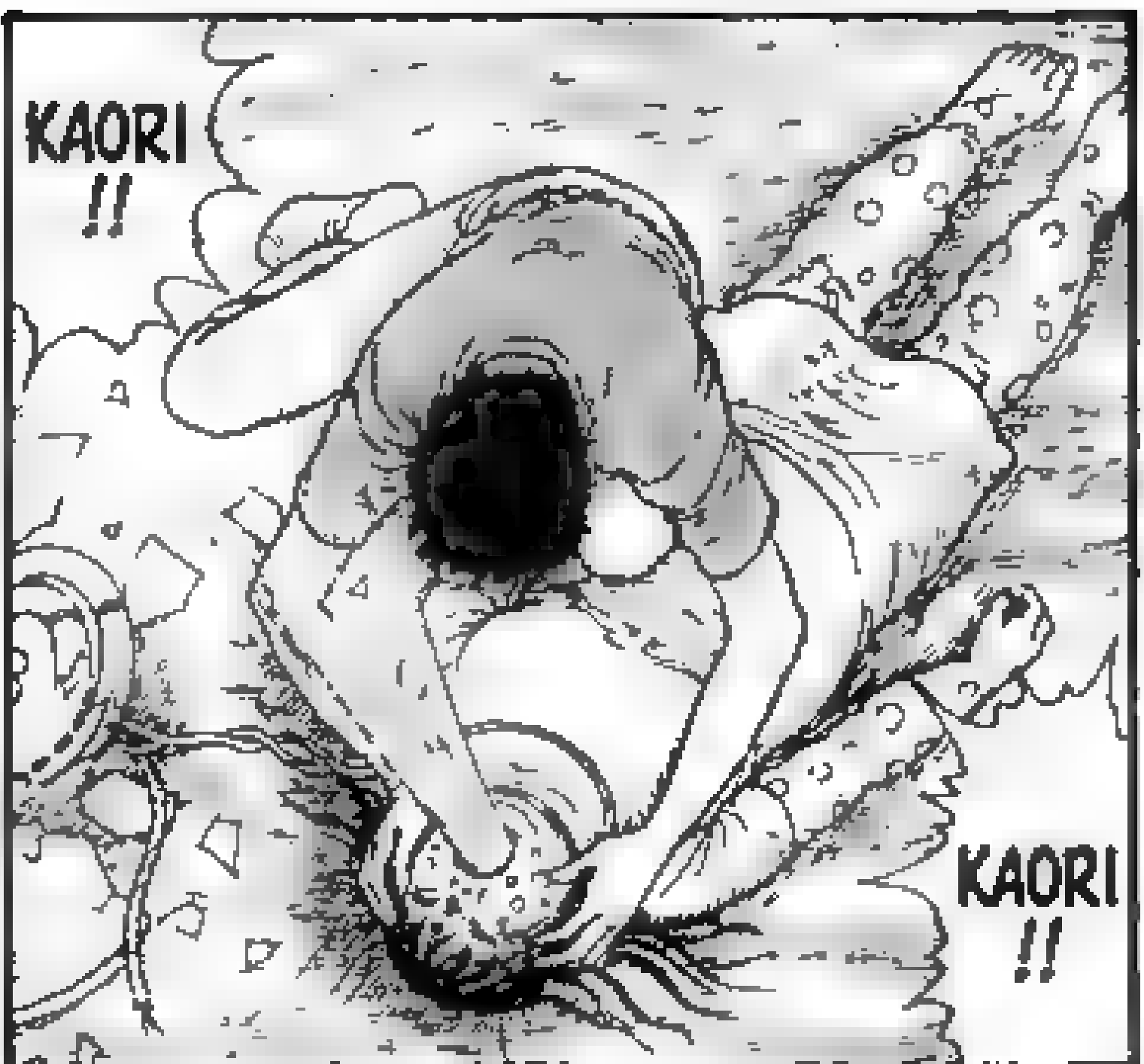
GOT  
TO  
CALL  
AN  
AMBU-  
LANCE  
!



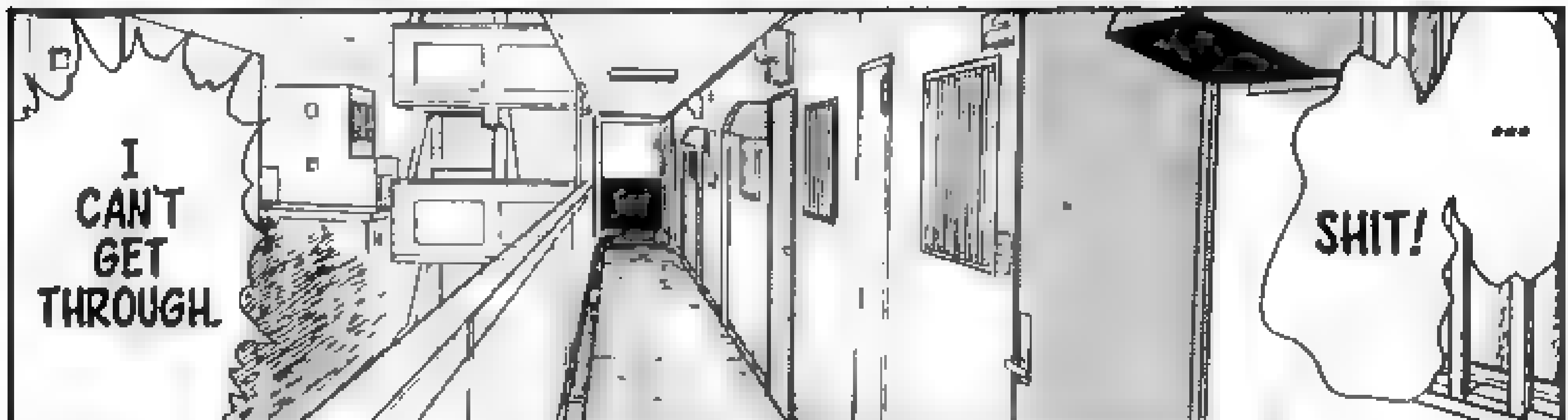
GOT  
TO...



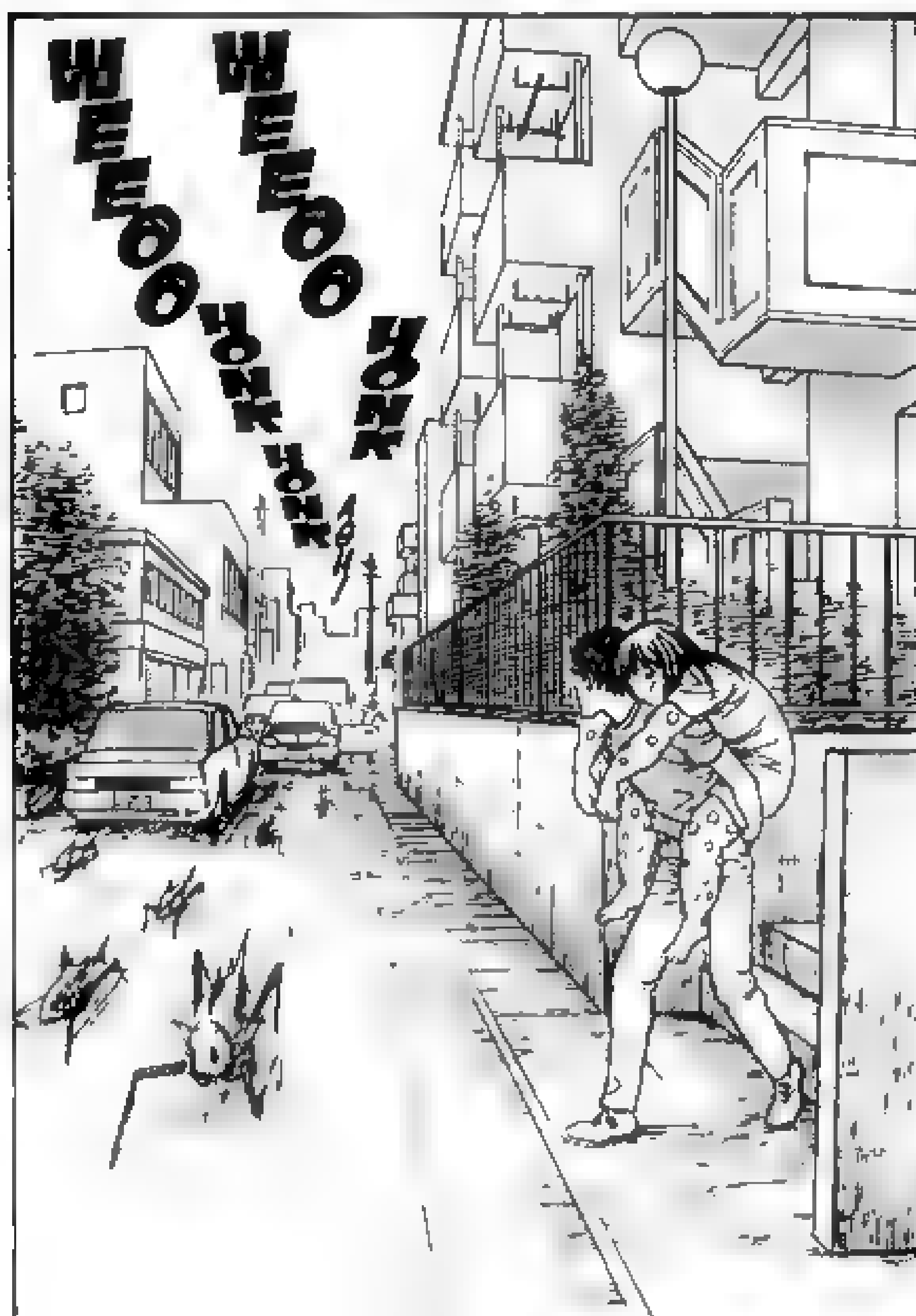
KAORI  
!!



I  
CAN'T  
GET  
THROUGH.



SHIT!







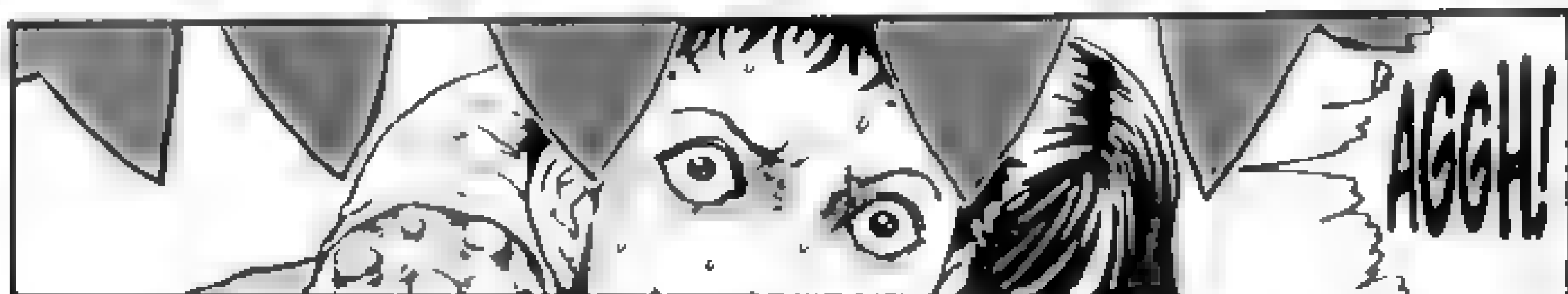






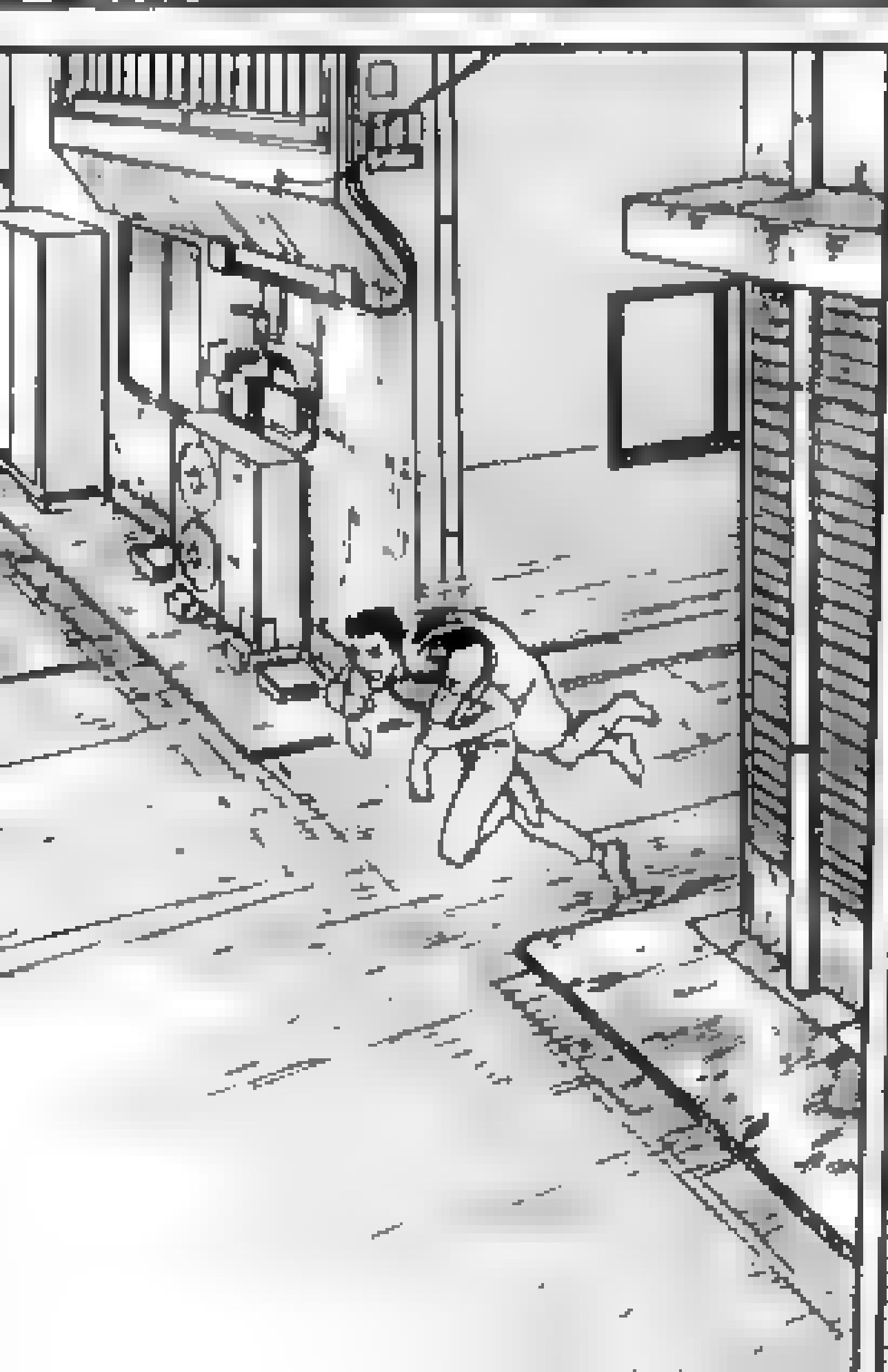
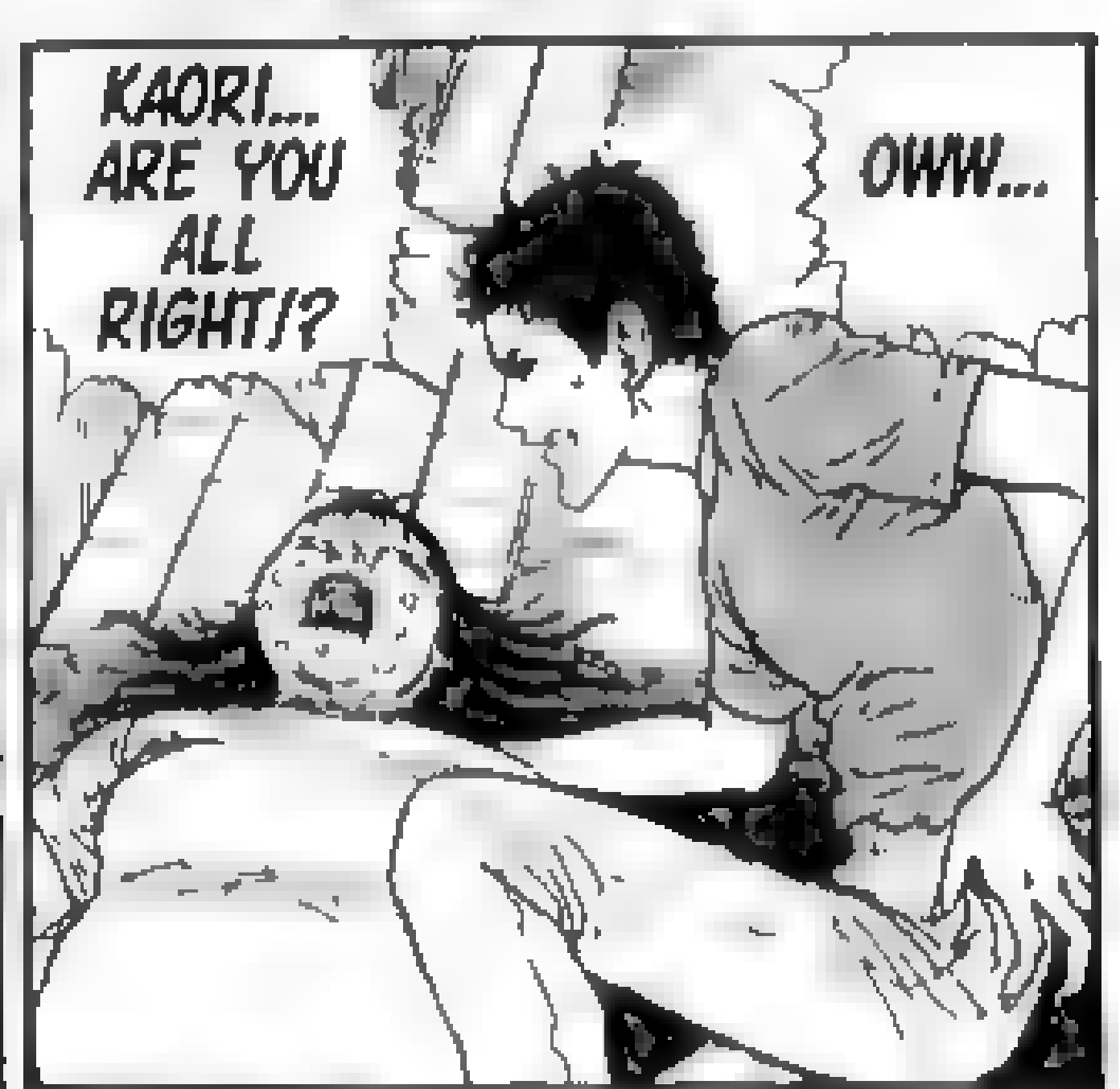
# W/The Death- Stench Invades, Part 2

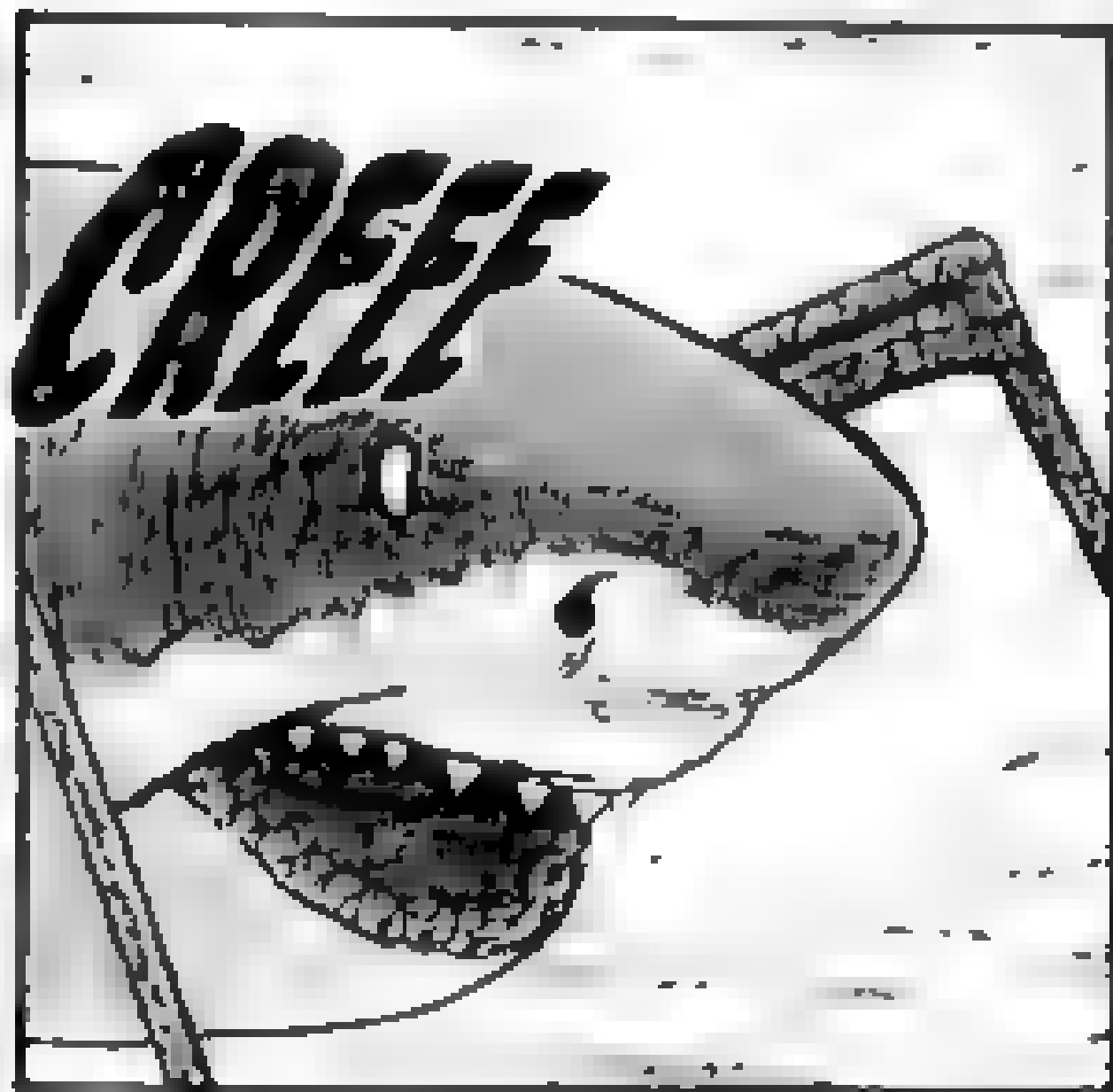
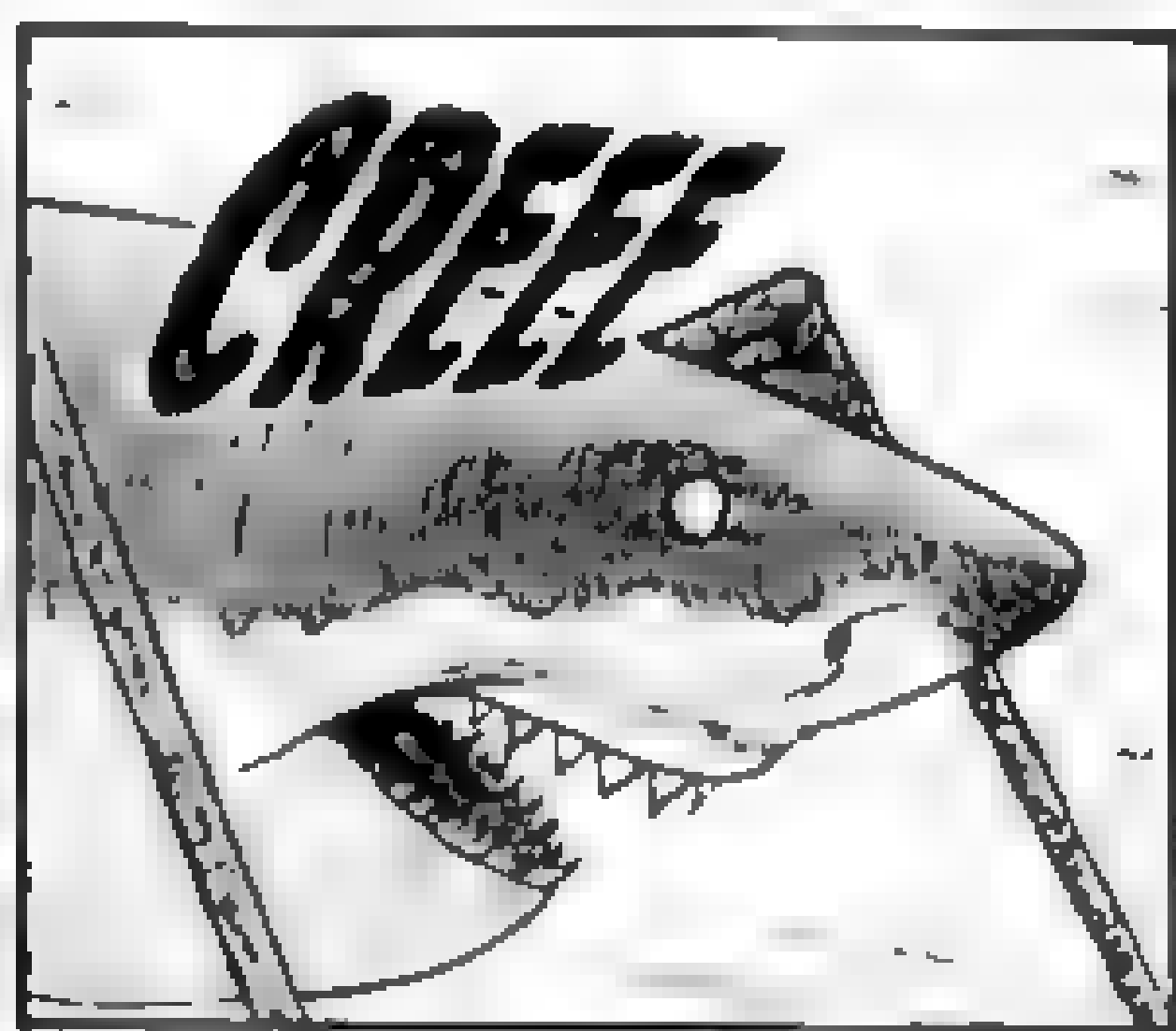
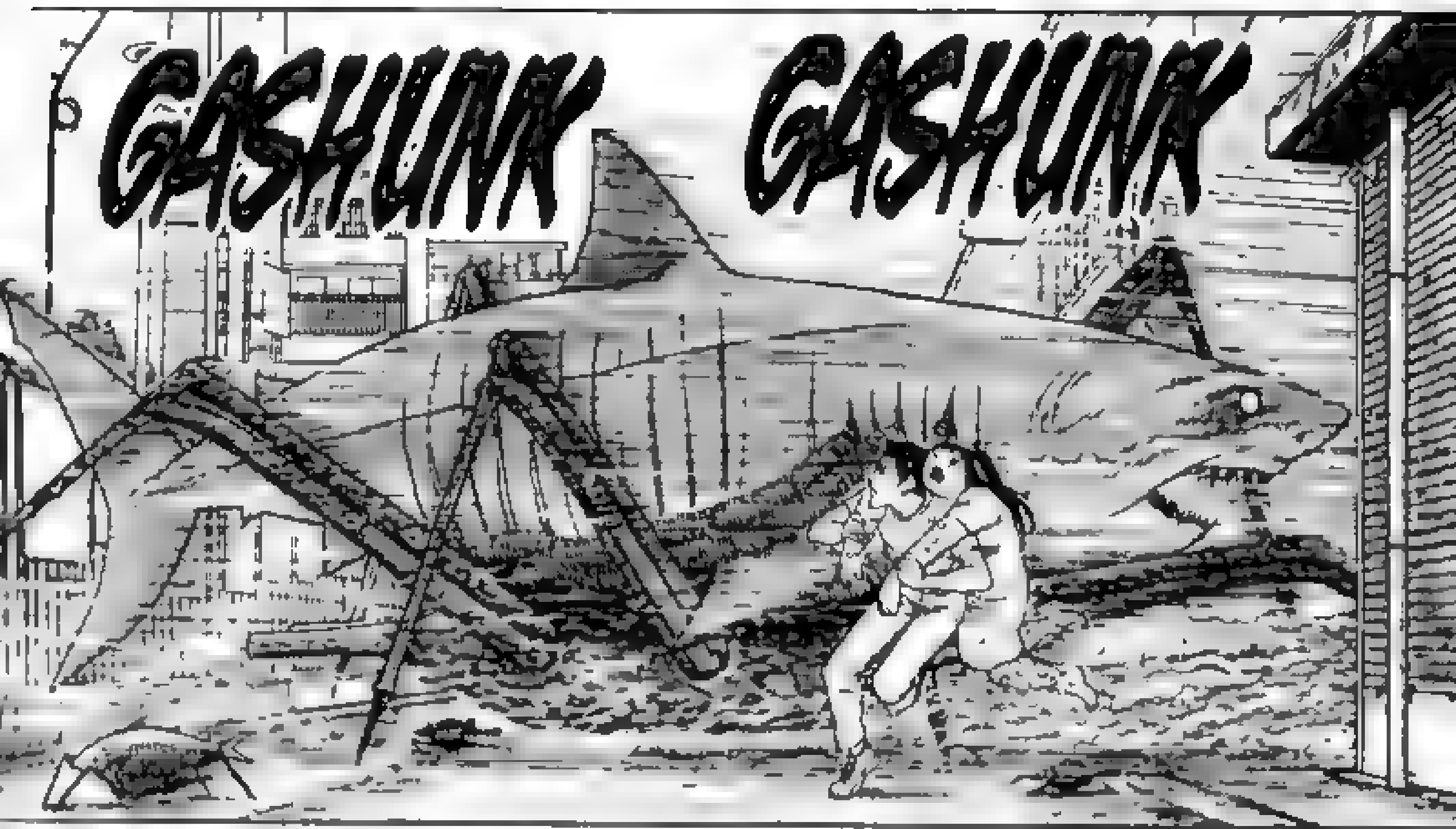






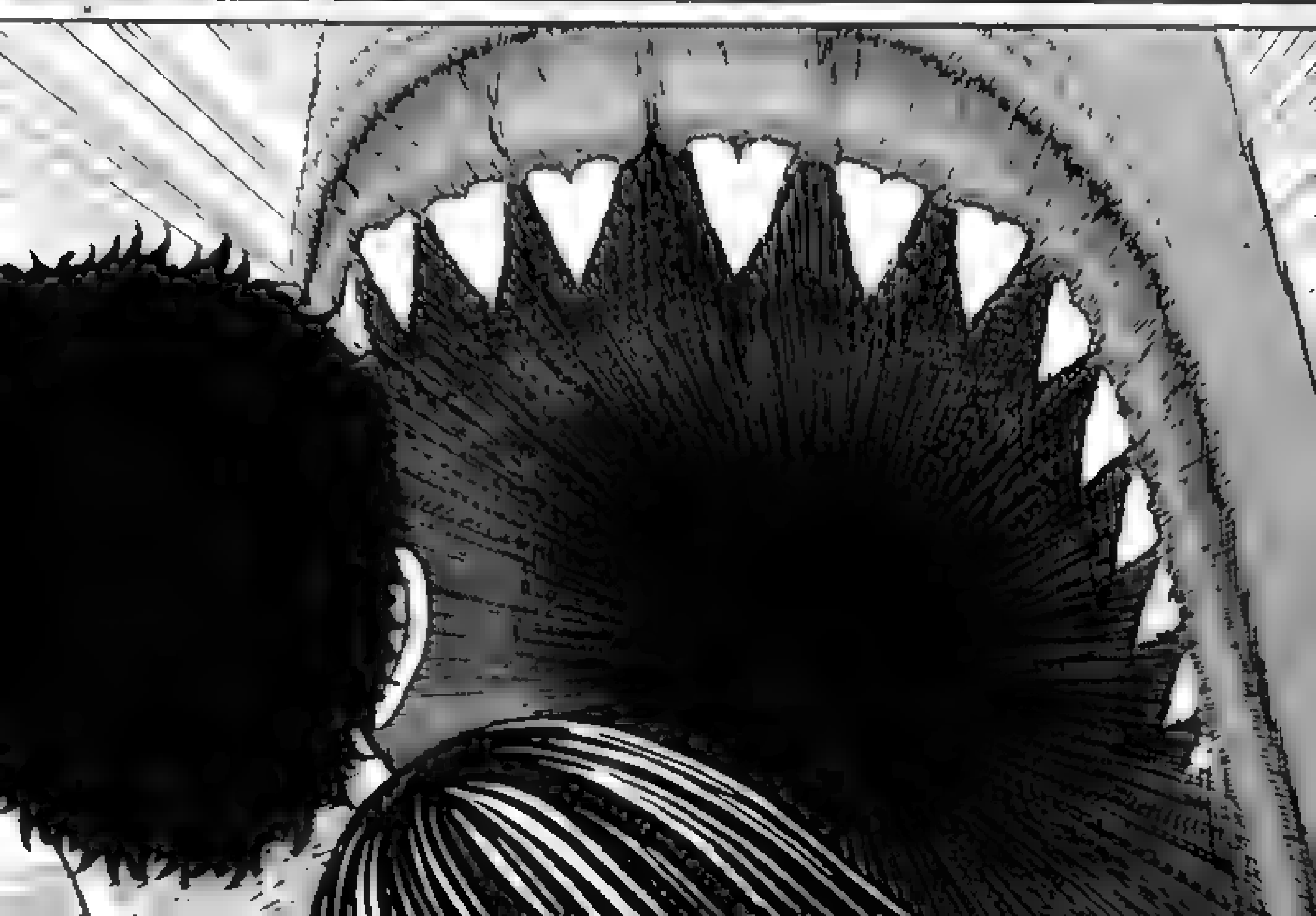


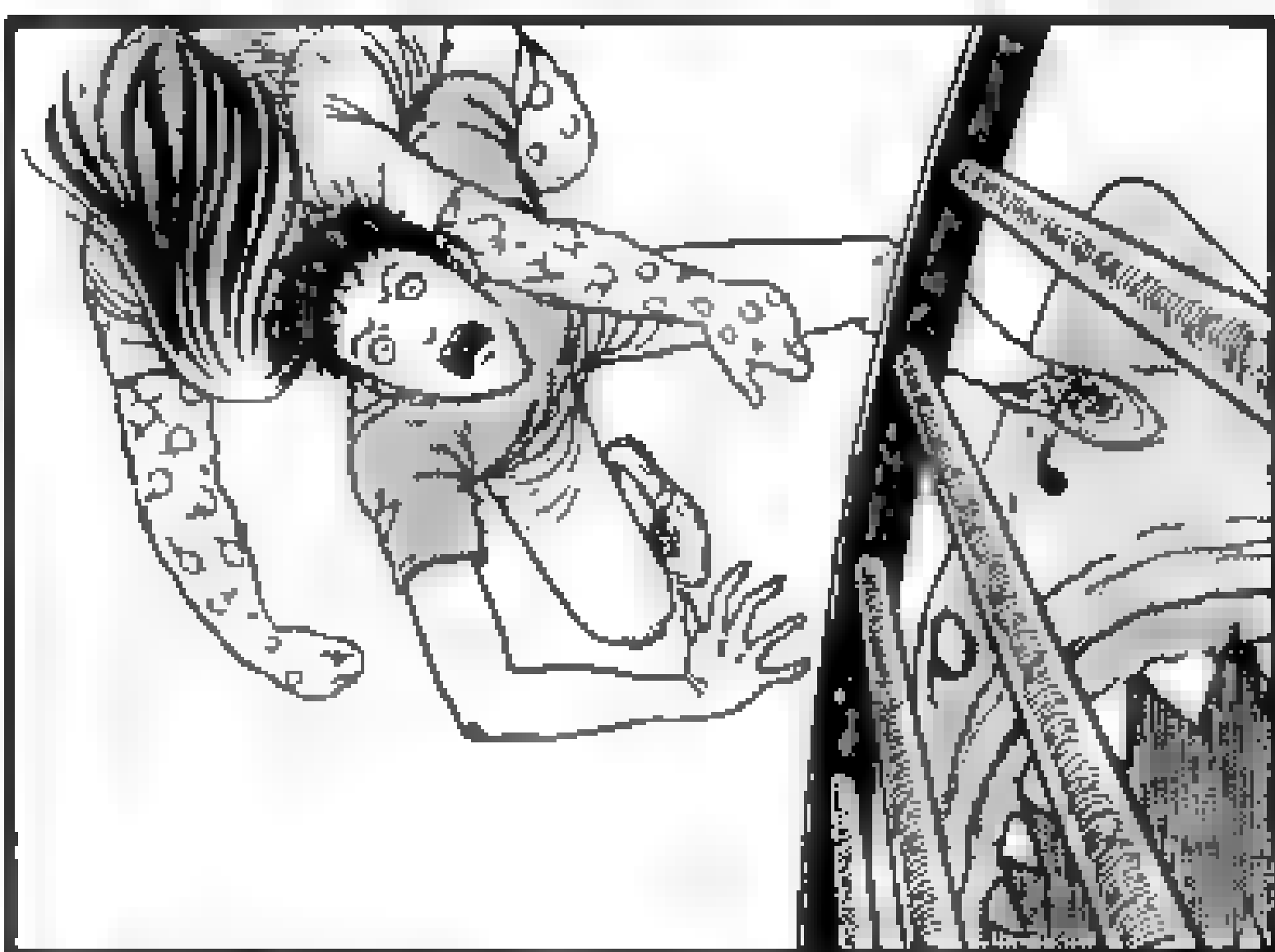














WE  
NEED  
TO CALL  
AN AMBU-  
LANCE!!

TADASHI  
...WHAT  
IS IT?



KAORI...  
KAORI'S  
DYING!!

YOSHIYAMA  
...A SHARK  
CHASED  
ME  
HERE...



ESSSHHH



ESSSHHH



UNCLE!



NO.  
YOU  
STAY  
HERE.

I'M  
GOING  
WITH  
YOU!



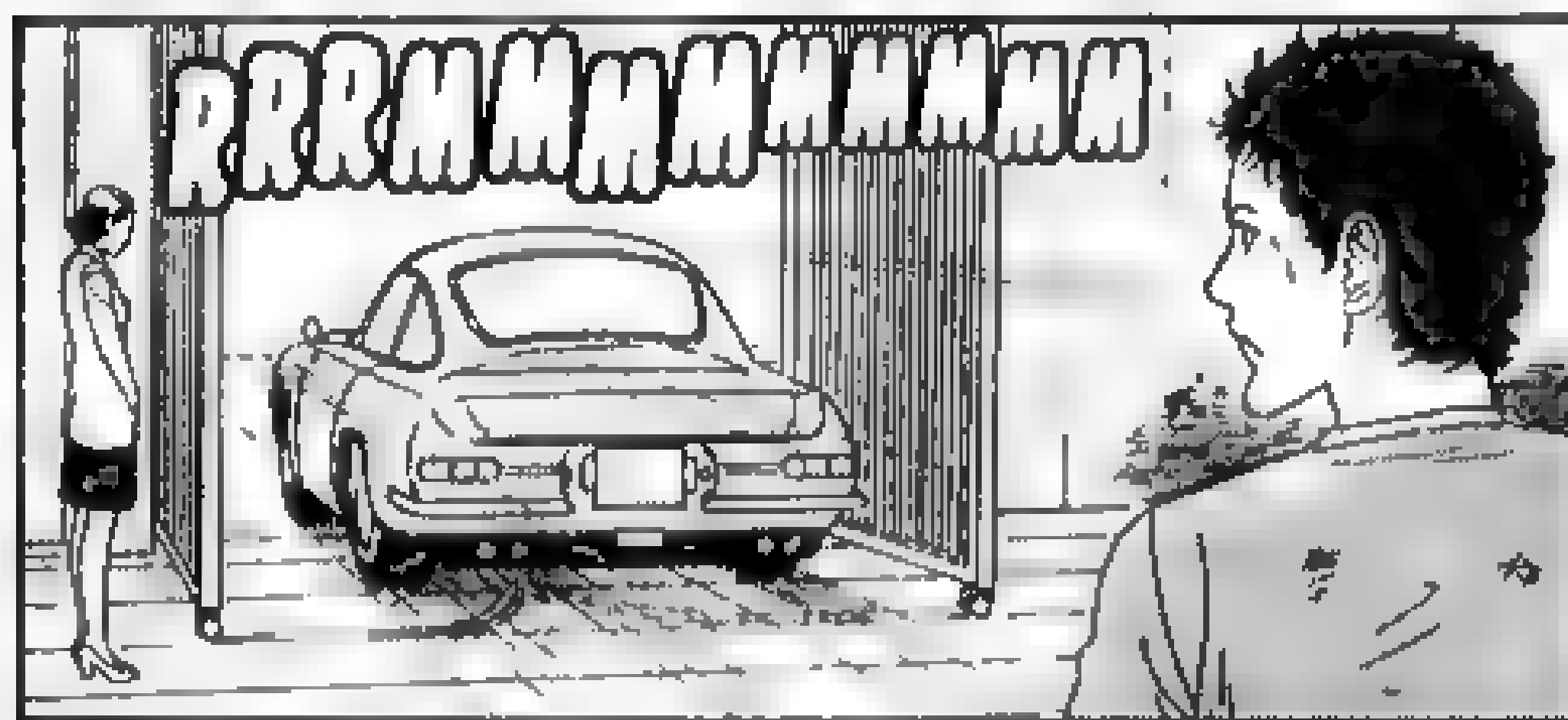
YOSHIYAMA.  
CAN YOU  
GO GET  
MY CAR?

THIS IS  
NOT GOOD...  
ALL RIGHT.  
I'LL TAKE  
HER TO THE  
HOSPITAL.

YES,  
SIR.

I'M WORRIED ABOUT THEM. DO YOU THINK YOU COULD GET TO THEIR HOUSE IN KANAGAWA?

BY THE WAY...I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONTACT YOUR PARENTS.

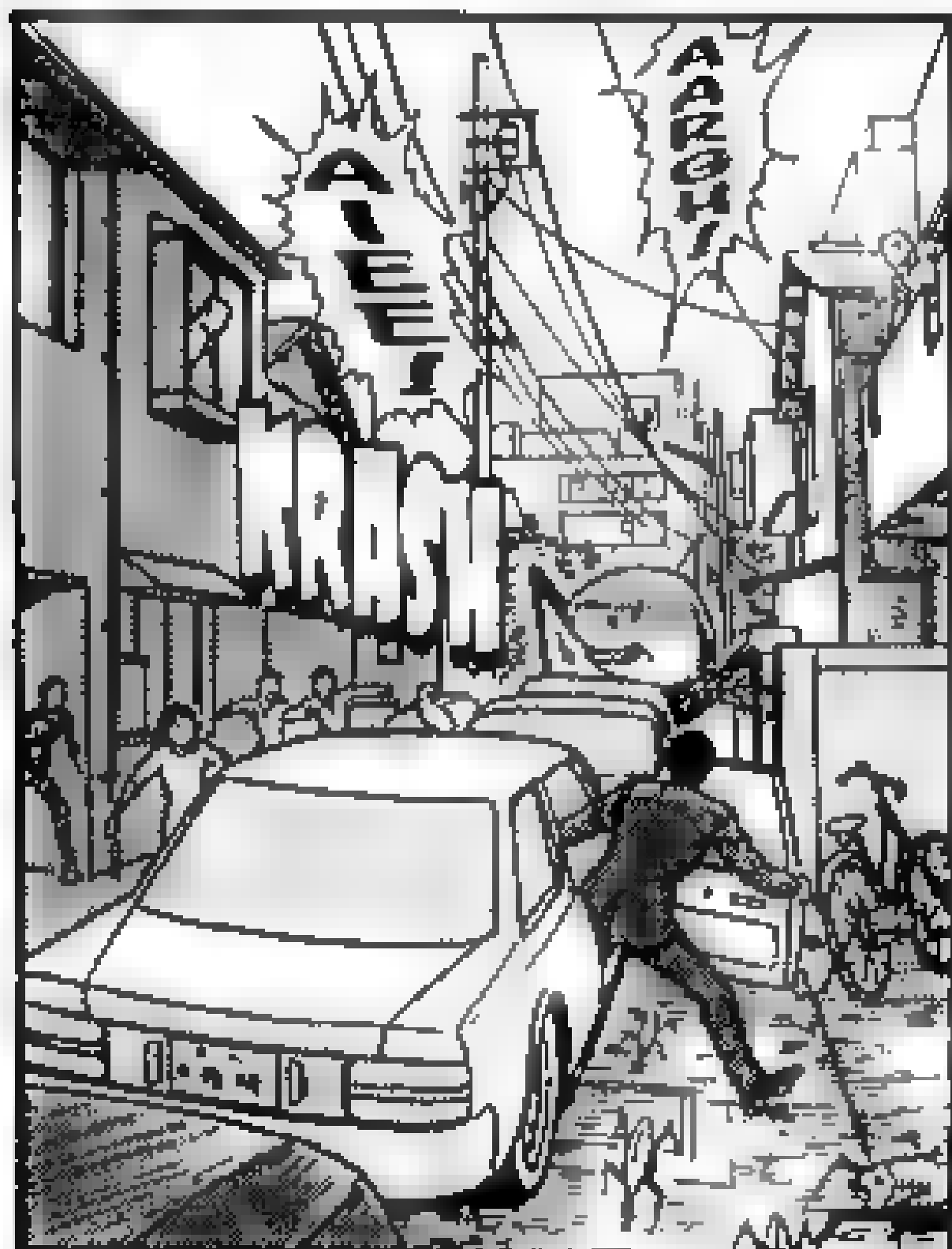


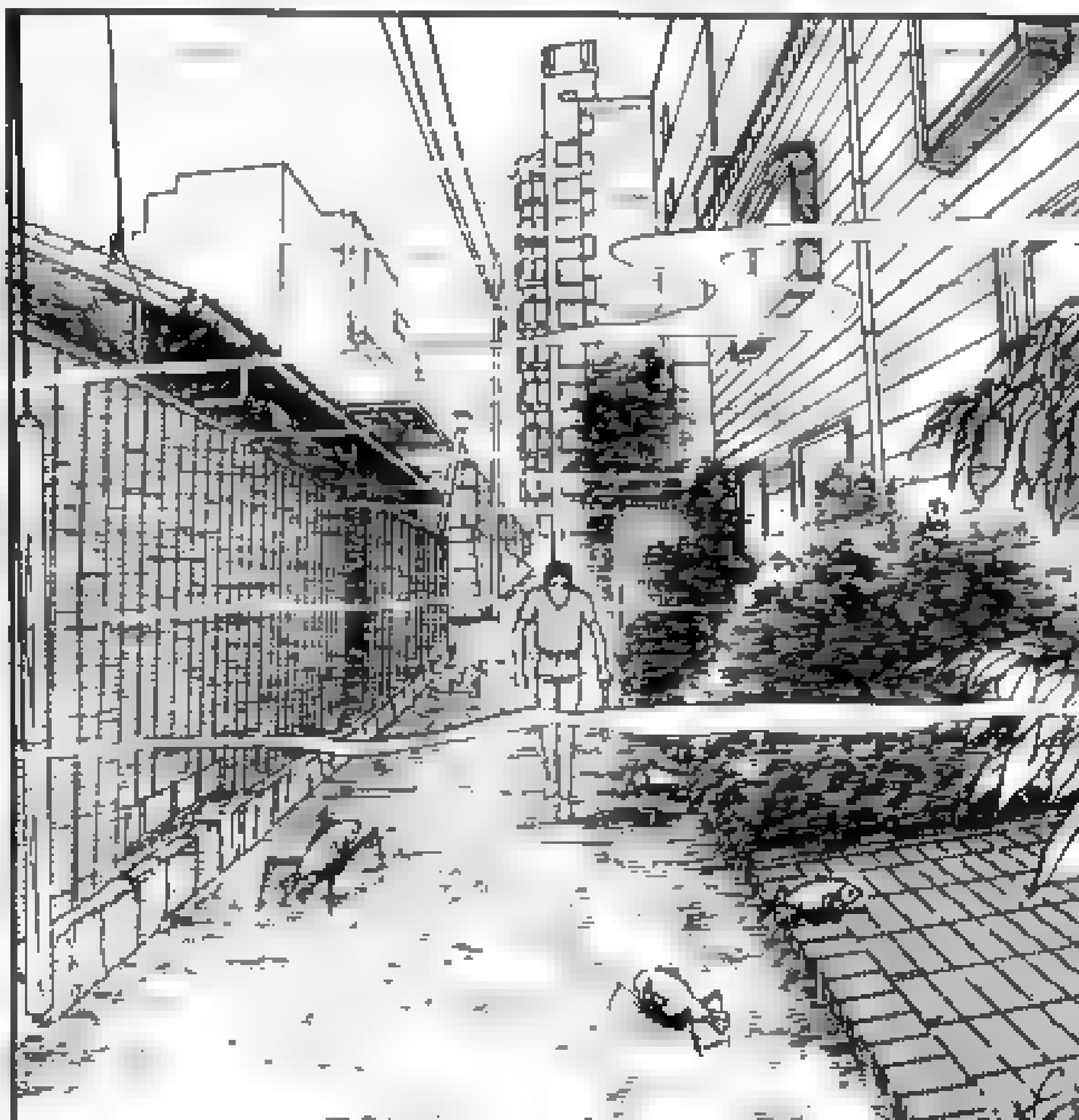
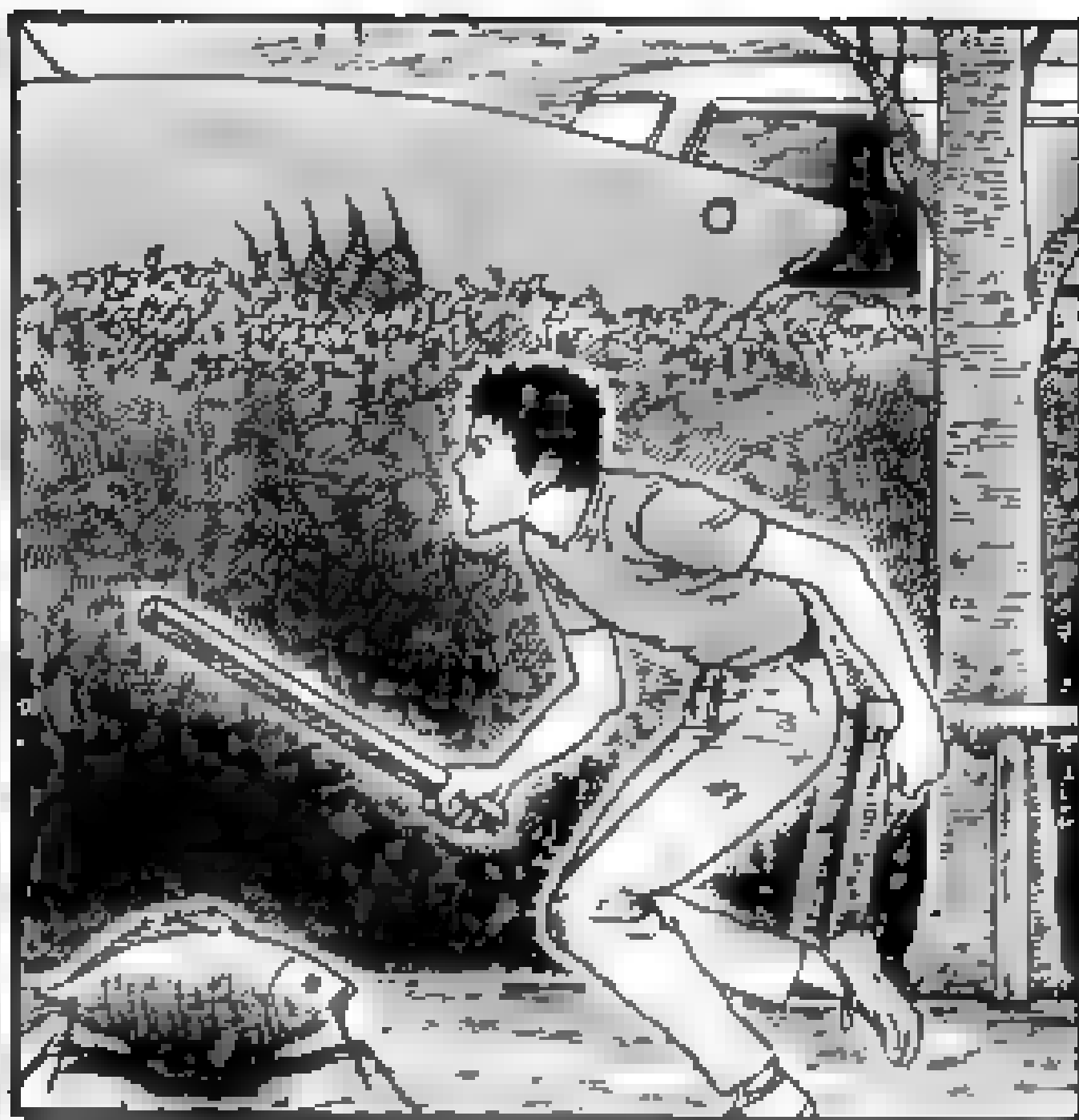
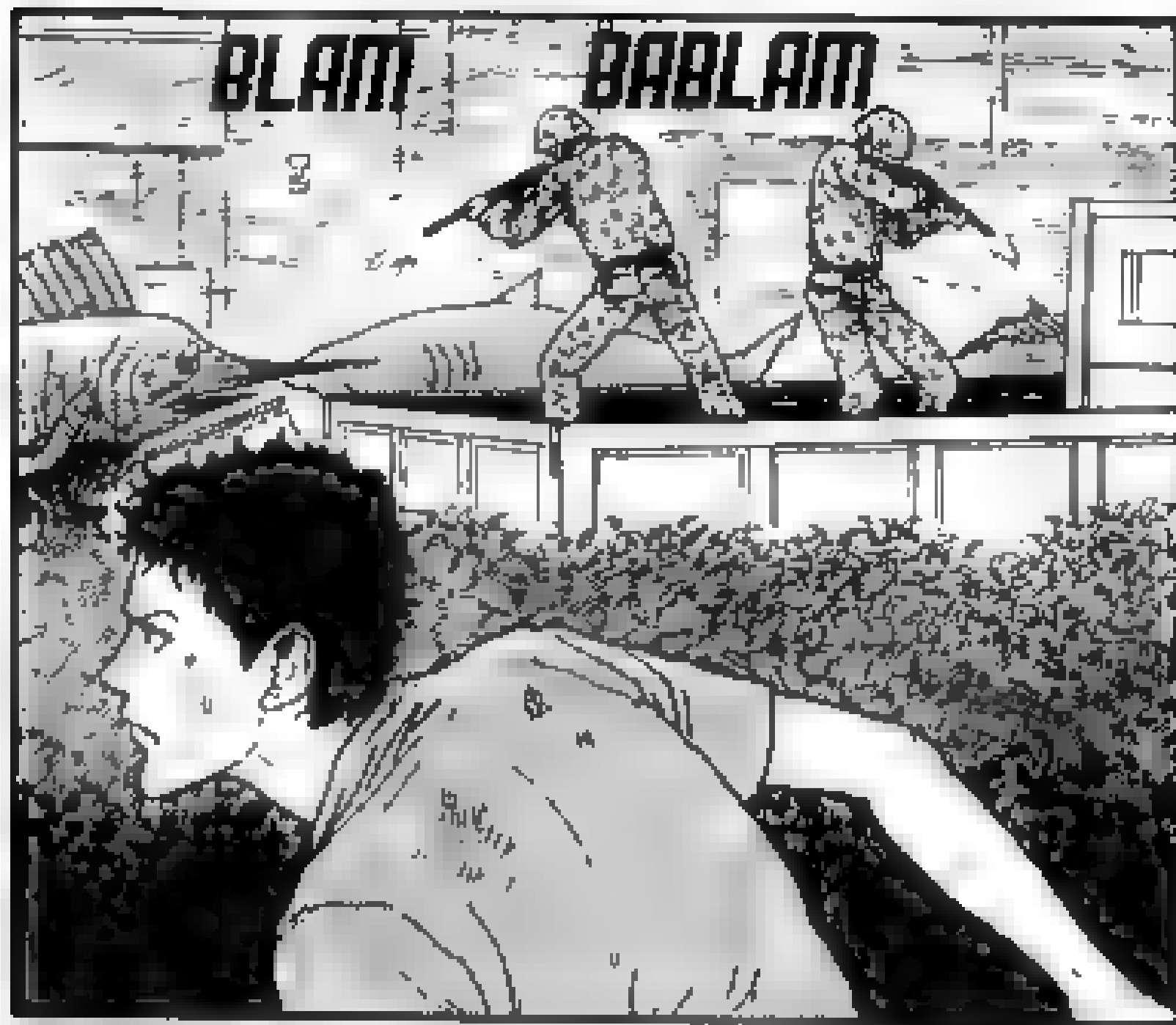
OF COURSE. THANKS.

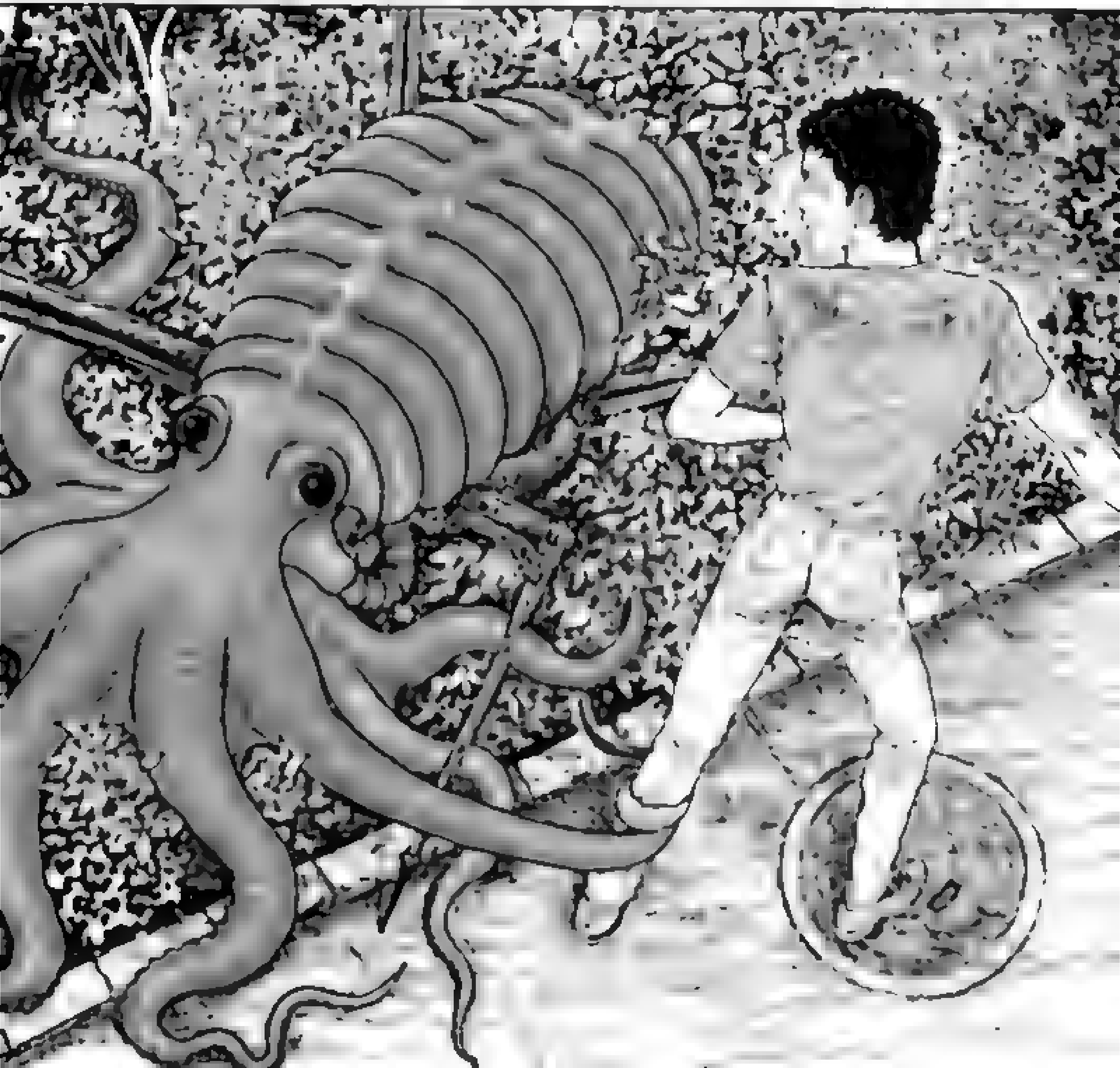
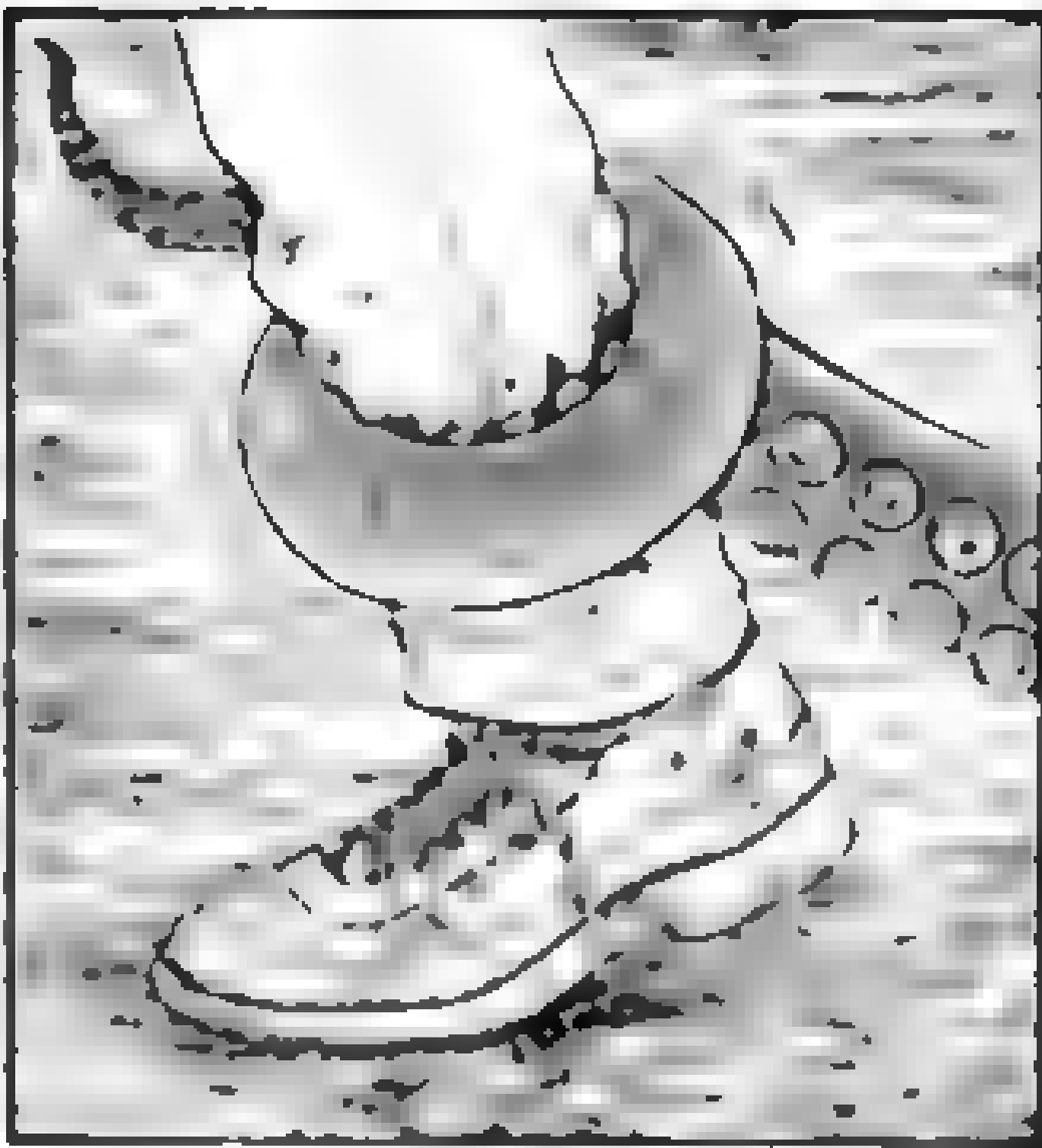
SURE ...

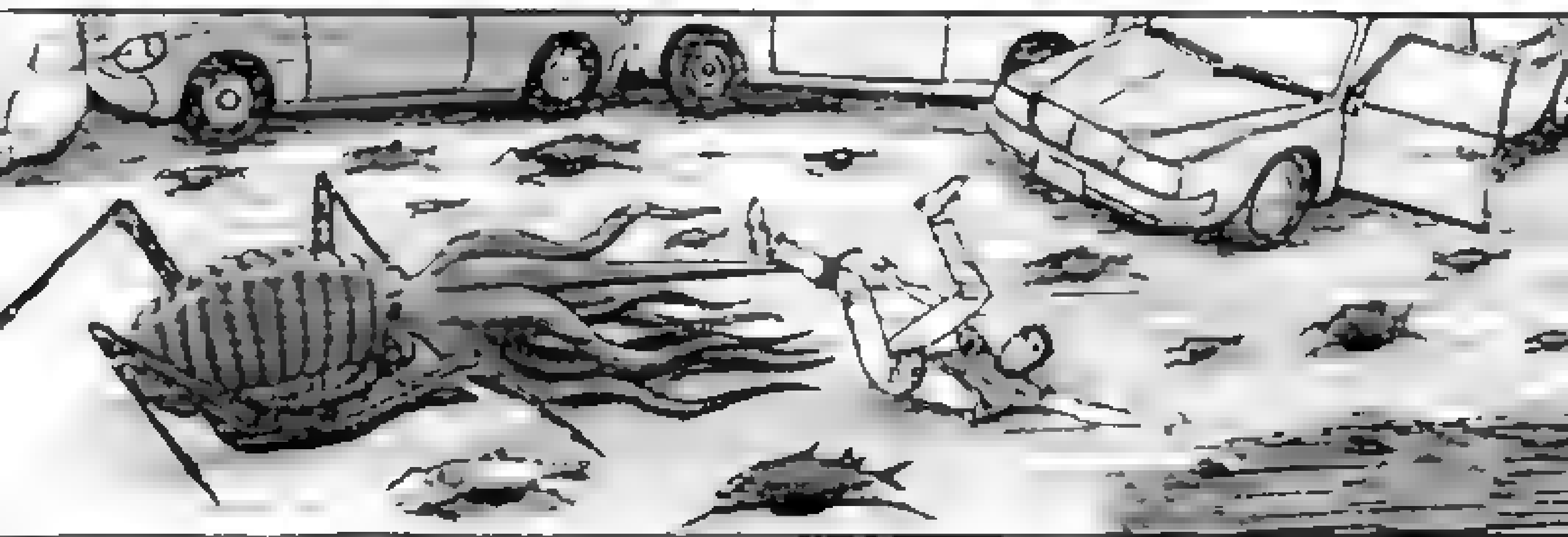
YES... I'M GOING TO GO HOME.

TADASHI, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

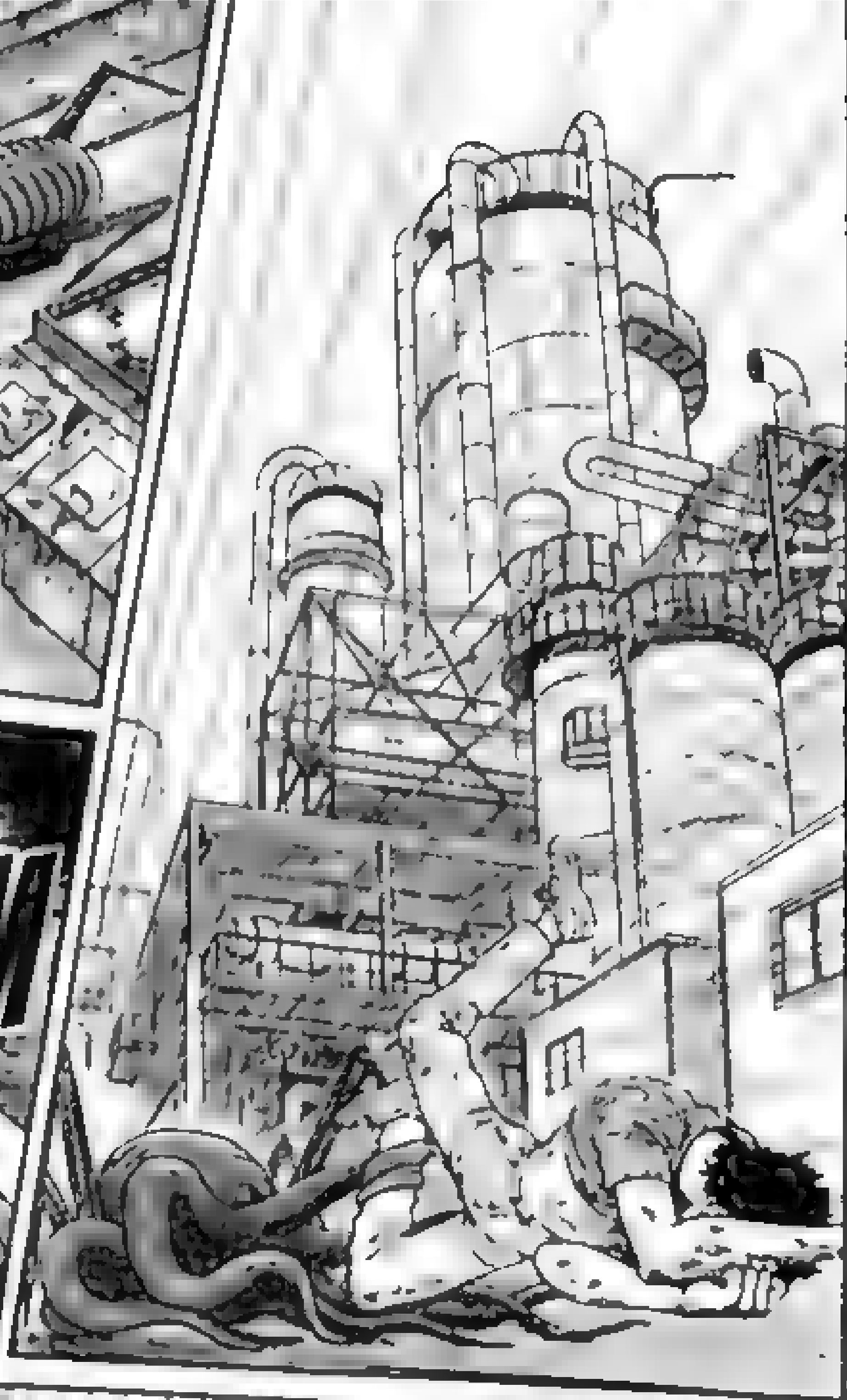


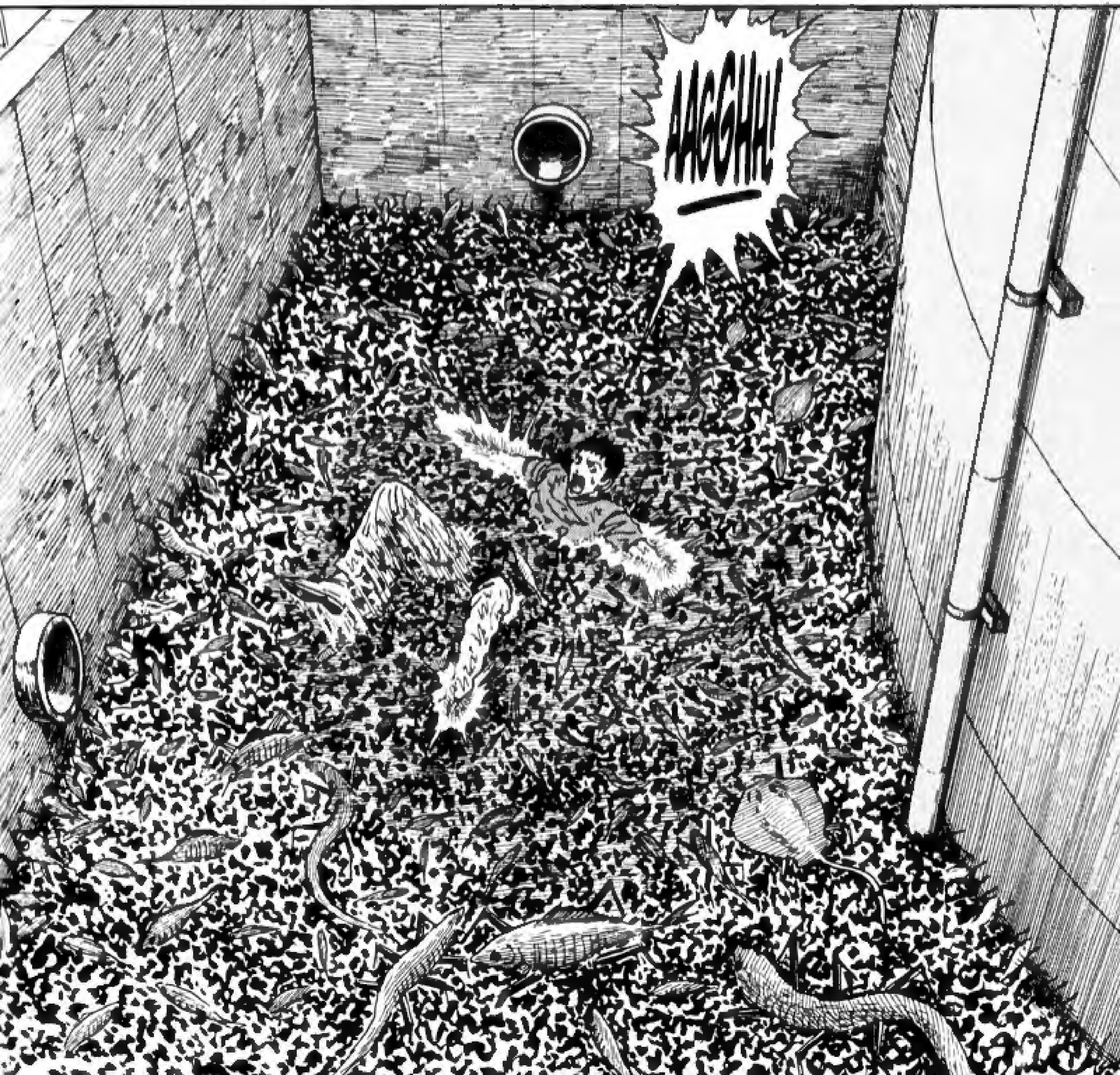


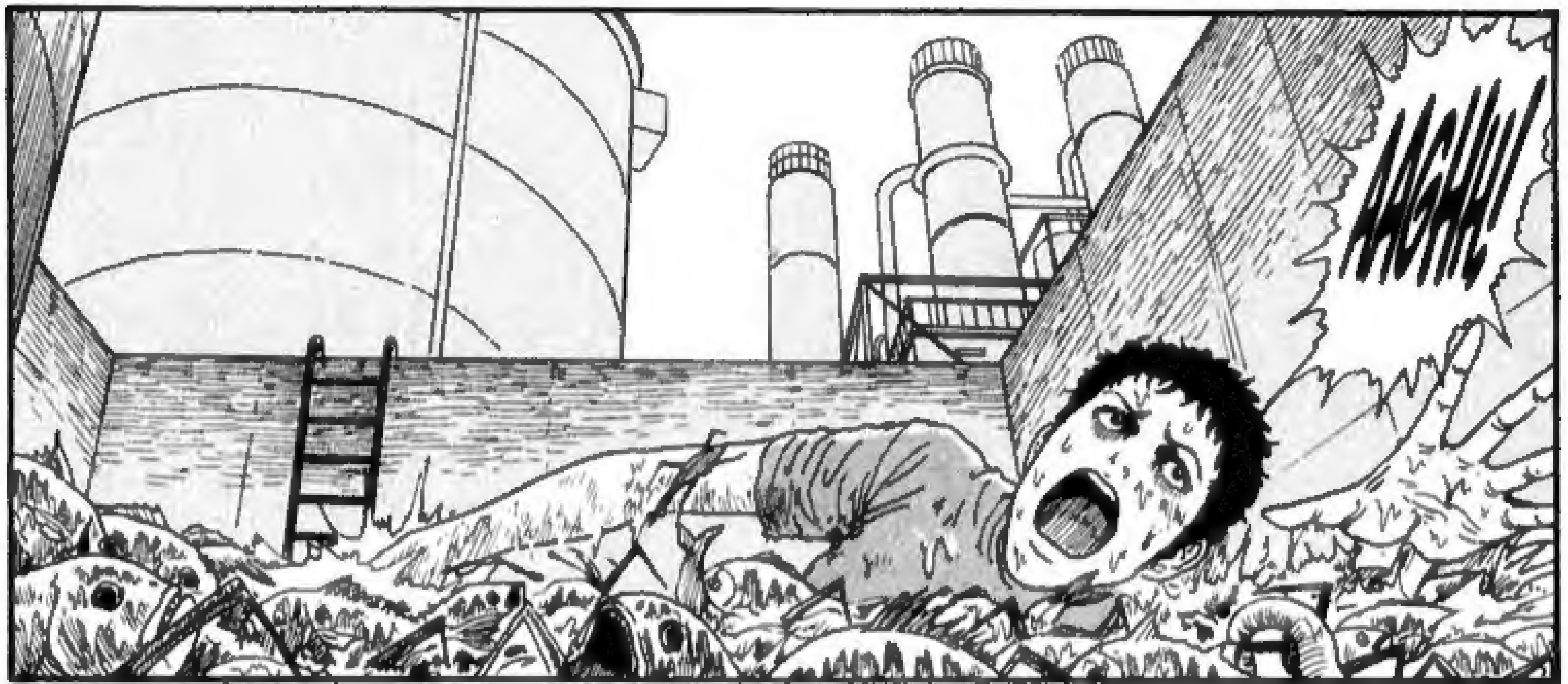


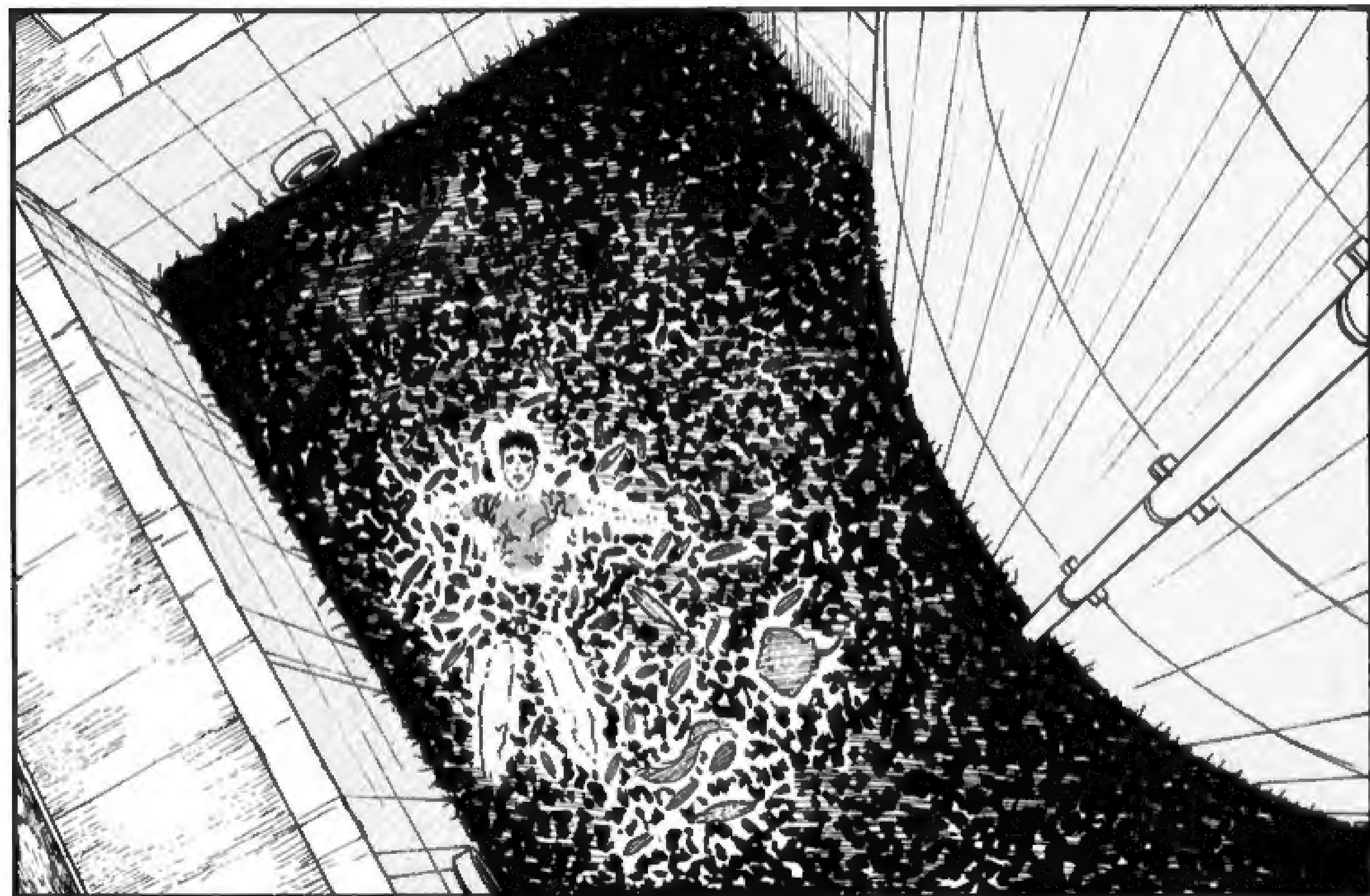












**TO BE CONTINUED...**

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Junji Ito was born in 1963 in Gifu-ken, Japan. Beginning with his debut story, “Tomie,” in 1987, Ito has gone on to become Japan’s leading horror comics artist. His influences include classic manga greats Kazuo Umezu ( *Drochi* ) and Hideshi Hino ( *Hell Baby* ), and the American horror author H.P. Lovecraft. Several of Ito’s works have been published to critical acclaim in English in the United States, including *Tomie* and *Uzumaki*, which has been nominated for the Eisner Award and was also made into a live-action film.